

STANDARD AMERICAN SERIES.

FIFTH READER.

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE

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STANDARD AMERICAN SERIES.



FIFTH READER.



St. Louis, Mo.

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE.

1909.

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PREFACE.

This fifth book, which is intended for the sixth and seventh school years, completes the *Standard American Series*.

The systematic grading, the marking, the arrangement of the Vocabulary, and other features are the same as in the previous Readers.

But few classic selections were found available. They were written for mature minds, not for pupils of elementary schools. The Committee was conscious of the impossibility of arranging such masterpieces by "grading" them without at the same time impairing their literary beauty. In some instances, however, simpler terms were substituted, in order to avoid a very long spelling and defining list of words at the head of the lesson.

The range of subjects covered by the various selections in the series is a wide one. It comprises lessons on all the different orders in natural history; it contains lessons on physiology, natural phenomena, inventions, discoveries, commodities, geography, general history, the history of the United States, Indians, civil government, races of mankind, and ecclesiastical history; it presents biographies, selections from the Bible, legends, patriotic, poetic, and humorous selections, proverbs, stories, and miscellaneous topics.

The pupil should be led to infer the meaning of words from the context, and then to consult the dictionary to test the correctness of his definitions; but his attention should also be directed to the derivation of words, in order to ascertain their meaning.

The accurate and graceful management of the voice in the expression of thought and emotion as to tone, movement, pitch, emphasis, pauses, etc., should not be taught in elementary schools by a set of rules. The Committee therefore has omitted these rules, believing that the good example and frequent corrections of the teacher will effectually supply elocutionary formulas.

The series contains (Charts, 300; First Reader, 530; Second Reader, 787; Third Reader, 942; Fourth Reader, 1135; Fifth Reader, 1684) 5378 *new* words. Allowing on an average three derivations to each word, this would make about 16,000 words with which, under favorable conditions, the pupils should have become conversant by the end of their school life.

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FIFTH READER.

PART I.

LESSON I.

sneak; *a mean, cowardly fellow.*

winc'd; *shrunk back.*

re buke'; *chiding.*

em' pha sis; *force.*

punch'ing; *stamping.*

nerv'ous ly; *excitedly.*

thump; *beat.*

crust'y; *surlly.*

in sist' on; *demand repeatedly.*

THE BEST WAY.

1. "Look here, boys, let's see who can hit that martin house over on Jones's hay-barn!"

It was Fred Ritter who spoke, and his companions were Jim Jensen and John Morton.

2. They were out in the meadow of neighbor Jones. Away up on the southeast corner of the roof was a little white martin house, and it was this that Fred Ritter proposed to hit.

"Fire away!" he shouted.

"Yes; fire away!" said Jim and John.

3. Under the martin house, fifteen feet down, was a little window in the barn. Nobody intended to hit that; but alas! an unlucky stone from John's hand went crashing through the glass. The boys stopped throwing.

"Now you've done it!" said Fred. "We'd better make use of our legs and go."

4. John thought it was cowardly, but allowed himself to be swept away by the rest.

They reached the road. There they met George Weck, Mr. Miller's hired man.

"Stop, boys! Where are you going?" he asked.

"George," replied John, "I am in trouble. I broke a pane of glass just now."

"Oh, keep quiet," said Fred. "Don't go and tell everybody."

"Why not tell?" asked George. "He's a sneak that tries to hide anything wrong which he has done."

5. Fred winced under the rebuke. Then John told George all about the trouble. "What shall I do?" he pleaded.

"John," said George, "there are two ways you can take to settle the matter. One is the way down the road, and the other is the way over the stone wall."

"What do you mean by that, George?"

"Why, I mean this: You can say nothing, and go down the road to your house; that, at first, is the easier way, but it won't pay in the end. The way over the stone wall is harder at first, but it is much better." All the while John's eyes were asking questions, wondering what George meant.

6. George went on. "I mean that Farmer Jones is somewhere behind that stone wall," he said, pointing to the meadow. "He is just across the field, cutting brush in the woods. I passed him there a little while ago. Now it will cost you something to get over that stone wall, go to the farmer, own up, and say you'll set the window. However, the way over the stone wall is the better way. It is right of you to take it, and what is right is best;" and here George brought his crowbar down

with emphasis, as if he were punching a period in the soil for his sentence.

John stopped a moment. "I'll do it," he said, and, prompt as a soldier, he started for the stone wall.

7. It was a little hard getting over those round, mossy, loose stones, for the wall was old; but it was the idea of "owning up" that made climbing the wall about the hardest work John ever had in this line. His mind was made up, however, and on he went, climbing over two walls between himself and the woods.

8. Farmer Jones was cutting brush in the woods. As John came up, he stopped cutting and wiped the perspiration from his brow.

"Fine day, John," he said.

"Yes, sir."

"How's your father?"

"Very well, sir."

"When is your father going to get his seed potatoes?"

"I can't say, sir."

"Well, is it very dry over your way?"

9. John thought, "This won't do. If I don't begin, I certainly shan't be able to tell him." He cleared his throat nervously, pulled down his jacket, allowed his heart to give one more thump, and then said: "Mr. Jones, I didn't come to talk about father's potatoes or the dry spell. I'm sorry, sir, but I broke a window in your barn while throwing stones at your martin house; and this, also, I ought not to have done. I'm sorry, Mr. Jones, and I'll set the glass to-morrow." "There," thought John, "I am over the stone wall."

10. Farmer Jones looked down, then up, and then I do not believe he knew which way to look. Boys did not generally act this way. They were apt to be rude and call him "crusty."

"Well, John," he said, "that's honest in you, and it pleases me, that's sure. Don't worry! Sometime I'll set that pane of glass."

"No, sir; I broke it, and I want to set it."

"Do you?" answered Farmer Jones. "Well, if you insist on it, do it; I am satisfied."

"Thank you!"

"It's all right, all right, John. Go on this way all through life and ever be honest; God will bless you."

11. John turned away and went across the meadow again. As he went, he said to himself, "George was right. The way down the road may be easier at first; but I believe the way over the stone wall was the only right way, after all."

LESSON II.

puff'ing; *blowing.*

boil'er; *a steam-producing vessel.*

mi nute'; *very small.*

op er a'tion; *action.*

valve; *a small lid on the boiler.*

ex pand'; *spread.*

ex plode'; *burst.*

ex erts'; *puts in action.*

ex cess'; *overabundance.*

ex treme'; *excessive.*

pent; *confined.*

for'mi da ble; *fearful.*

found'ry; *building fitted for molding metals.*

ap pro' pri ates; *seizes, occupies.*

STEAM.

1. Steam is like air in three ways. It is very thin; it is very elastic, that is, it has great springiness; and you cannot see it. Now, perhaps, you will say that this last is not true, and that we often see steam puffing out of a steam engine or out of a teakettle. But what we see is not really steam; it is not like the steam that is in the boiler of the engine or in the teakettle. It is a cloud of fog that the steam turned into when it was cooled by the air. It is just like common fog, except that it is hot. Real steam you cannot see as you see this.

2. Look at the spout of a teakettle when the water in it is boiling quite fast. Close to the end of the spout, for half an inch or more, you cannot see the steam fog at all. There is a stream of steam coming out as fast as it can; but the air about it has not yet had a chance to change it into fog. The steam must first spread out a little. When it begins to spread out, the cool air makes the minute particles of steam form into companies, and it is a great many of these companies together that you see in the cloud of steam, as it is called, that comes from a steam engine or from a teakettle. There is a great force in steam. It is steam that moves the locomotive, and that causes the great steamship to plow its way through the water. Sometimes it shows its power in destruction, as when it bursts a boiler. X

3. Now what is it that makes steam so powerful? To understand this, look at a locomotive when it is not in operation, and with its boiler full of steam. A valve is opened, and out rushes the steam, spreading itself and turning into a cloud of fog. It is this trying to spread itself, or to expand, that makes steam so powerful. If the valve were not opened, the boiler might explode; for, as the steam is not used to move the locomotive, it keeps on increasing in the boiler all the time. The force with which it rushes out when the valve is opened shows how much power it exerts in trying to expand.

4. You see the same thing in the rattling of the lid of the teakettle when the water in it is boiling. The steam which is made has no room in the kettle to expand. It escapes, therefore, wherever it can, and if the water boils so fast that the steam cannot escape from the spout, it will continue to lift the lid and to puff out there.

5. There is always a safety valve on a steam engine. This is commonly kept shut by a weight that is upon it.

But when there comes to be an excess of steam in the boiler, it has expansive power enough to raise the valve, and so some of the steam escapes. This prevents the boiler from bursting, and hence the valve is called the safety valve.

6. Now, if there happens to be a weak place in the boiler, and the weight on the valve is heavier than it should be, the weak place will be likely to give way rather than the valve, and an explosion is sure to follow. Many boilers burst in this way. X

7. Sometimes a boiler is carelessly allowed to become nearly empty, and then the fire makes it very hot. When more water is let into it, a great deal of steam is made at once. This suddenly expands, and with such extreme force that the boiler gives way. You can understand how this is, if you see a little water dropped upon a red-hot iron. A great cloud of steam arises, spreading itself in the air, and you can readily understand that if this were pent up, it would make a strong pressure in trying to get free.

8. It takes but little water to make a great deal of steam. This explains an explosion that once took place in London. There happened to be some water in one of the molds, and, therefore, when the melted metal was poured into it, this water was at once made into steam. Now, in trying to get free, the steam made such a formidable explosion as to blow up the whole foundry. Perhaps you can hardly believe that so little water could do so much when suddenly turned into steam. But you must remember that the steam appropriates, if set free, seventeen hundred times as much room as the water does from which it is made. It tries to get this room, and in doing so it exerts great force, and often does a great deal of harm. +

LESSON III.

em' per or; *ruler.*
 vel' vet; *a kind of silk cloth.*
 ed u ca' tion; *training.*
 naugh' ty; *mischievous.*
 un be com' ing; *not proper.*

em broid' ered; *ornamented*
with needlework.
 gen teel'; *refined.*
 grunt; *voice of a pig.*
 de' cent; *respectable.*

THE EMPEROR AND HIS PET PIG.

1. A fable says there was once a great emperor of China who had a strange fondness for making pets of pigs. He very much disliked their dirty habits, and he often used to say that he wished they could be cured of these habits, and made neat and clean, so that they might be loved and petted like little lambs. He said it was not the pigs' fault that their ways were unclean, but only because they were not properly taught and taken care of.

2. "Now," said he, one day, to some of his friends, "I mean to prove to you that this is so. I will take a little pig and bring him up carefully in the way I think right, and I will show you how nice and clean and gentle he will become."

3. So he had a handsome palace built for his pet pig to live in. Then he took a little pig, and separated it from all other pigs. It was never allowed even to see any others, for fear of its learning something bad from them. It was fed from silver dishes; it slept on a thick velvet carpet, and was never allowed to go into the mud. It had some of the wisest men in the empire to take care of it, and it was taught everything that a pig could be taught. At length, when Mr. Pig was full-grown, the emperor said his education was finished; he had been so well trained that he might be allowed to go anywhere, for his good habits would keep him from doing anything naughty or unbecoming for an emperor's pet.

4. So one day the emperor told his servants to get his pet ready to go out and take a walk with him. Then they dressed him up in a blue velvet jacket, which was embroidered with gold; some gold rings were put on his legs, and a jewel in his nose. The emperor was pleased to see his pet look so fine, and he set off with him to take a walk through the city, that Mr. Pig might see a little of the world, and all the people might know what a nice, genteel, well-behaved pig he was.

5. But alas for all the emperor's hopes! He was just beginning to feel proud of his pet's behavior, when they came to a place where some pigs were rolling in the mud. In a moment the emperor's pet forgot all about his good training and his fine clothes. Before the servant could stop him, the pig gave a grunt, starting off as fast as he could run, plunged in among the other pigs, and rolled about in the mud as heartily as any of them.

6. The poor emperor was very much disappointed; but he took his pig home, had him washed and put in his palace again, and ordered his teachers to give him another course of lessons. He said it was not the fault of his pet that he had done wrong, but it was owing to the bad example set him by the other pigs. He intended hereafter to keep him out of reach of such examples, and then he was sure his pet would behave himself properly.

7. After a while, when he thought his pig had forgotten all about his mud bath, he took him out for another walk. But this time, to keep him away from any bad example, he concluded to walk only in the garden of the palace. So they took a long walk through the garden, and the pig behaved very well till, on their return, they came to the rear of the palace. Here was a ditch into which the dirt from the garden was thrown, and which was full of mud. The pig had never seen this

before. There were no other pigs near to set him a bad example; but as soon as he came in sight of it, he ran off to the ditch, jumped in, and rolled about in the mud, just as he had done before.

8. Now the emperor was in despair. He loved his pig, and wanted him to be a clean, decent pig. Yet he knew by this time that it was not bad example, but just his own piggish nature, which made his pig so fond of the mud.

9. He had the pig cleaned again, and sat down to consider what he should do next.

10. Presently, the fable says, a fairy appeared to the emperor, and, after hearing what was the trouble, said, "If you will give me the pig for a little while, I will make it hate dirt and love to be clean."

11. "Oh! do it, do it," said the emperor. So the fairy took the pig and exchanged his heart for the heart of a lamb. After this the emperor had no more trouble with his pet. The pig now had a lamb's heart. He was gentle, and loving, and clean as a lamb. He did not want to roll in the mud any longer. The things he used to be fond of he cared for no more, while he now loved things that before he did not like at all. †

LESSON IV.

ma te' ri als; *substances.*

pulp; *a soft mass.*

gru'el; *boiled oatmeal.*

chem'ic als; *acids.*

chlo'ride of lime; *a chemical.*

cyl'in ders; *hollow rollers.*

reel; *a spool.*

size; *a weak glue.*

glazed; *smooth and shining.*

con sumed'; *used.*

met ro pol'i tan; *published in chief cities.*

e di'tion; *publication.*

sale; *selling.*

PAPER MAKING.

1. The Chinese are the first people known to have made paper. In Europe paper mills were built in the twelfth century; in America, in the closing years of the seventeenth century.

2. The best paper is made of linen rags; but cotton and other materials are also much used. Of late years a method of converting straw and wood into paper has been found. If you go to paper mills, you will be shown great heaps of old dirty rags, and you will perhaps be surprised when you are told that these dirty rags of all colors are made into clean white paper.

3. The rags are first thoroughly washed and soaked in water. They are then put into a kind of box. In the sides of the box there are sharp knives, and a roller, also furnished with knives, turns round in it. The rags are kept in water while the roller moves round and round, tearing and cutting them to small pieces, till, at last, the rags and the water form a pulp somewhat like gruel. After the pulp has been rendered perfectly white by means of chloride of lime, it is put into a large vessel, where it is kept warm and constantly stirred.

4. In order to form this pulp into paper, the water must be separated from it, and the solid parts spread out into a flat, thin layer. Formerly each sheet of paper was made separately by hand; now machines moved by steam are employed, which manufacture paper far more rapidly.

5. The pulp is made to flow upon very fine wire-cloth, upon which it spreads out in a thin sheet. The wire-cloth moves slowly onward, and the water is drained off, leaving the layer of pulp. The sheet is next slightly pressed between two pairs of rollers. After passing over and under several heated cylinders, the sheet at last winds itself upon

a reel in the form of dry white paper. The pulp is changed into paper in less than two minutes. One machine is able to make a web of paper from 60 to 160 inches wide at a speed of 400 feet per minute, or upward of four miles of paper per hour.

6. Wood pulp is used to a very large extent in the manufacture of paper. There are two kinds of wood pulp, that obtained by grinding the wood, and that obtained by treating it with chemicals. You will be astonished to learn what quantities of wood are used for this purpose. In 1906 the amount of wood consumed for making paper was 3½ million cords. Some of the metropolitan papers use acres of spruce in a single edition, most of which is shipped from the forests of Canada. In 1906 the total value of wood consumed for paper was \$26,000,000.

7. Writing-paper is dipped into a tub of size, which is a particular kind of glue. If it were not for this, the ink would run when we write upon it. Blotting-paper is made without size. Some kinds of paper have a glazed surface. This is given by pressing them between heated plates. The rolls of paper are cut into the size required. The sheets are counted into quires, each containing twenty-four sheets, folded, and cut smooth round the edges. Lastly, the paper is put into reams of twenty quires, pressed in the reams, and tied up in wrappers for sale.

LESSON V.

| | |
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| a bide'; <i>stay, remain.</i> | re bel' lious; <i>resisting the lawful</i> |
| whence; <i>from what place.</i> | <i>government.</i> |
| e' ven tide; <i>the time of evening.</i> | per verse'; <i>turned aside from the</i> |
| fail; <i>prove useless.</i> | <i>right.</i> |
| ebbs out; <i>declines.</i> | foil; <i>baffle.</i> |
| brief; <i>short.</i> | stay; <i>support.</i> |
| con de scend' ing; <i>lowering.</i> | tri' umph; <i>rejoice over a victory.</i> |
| so' journ; <i>dwell for a time.</i> | re veal'; <i>make known.</i> |
| plea; <i>prayer.</i> | gloom; <i>darkness.</i> |

ABIDE WITH ME!

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. *Ps. 121, 1. 2.*

1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, and glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!
3. Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word,
But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples, Lord:
Familiar, condescending, patient, free;
Come not to sojourn, but abide with me!
4. Come not in terrors as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing on Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea;
O Friend of sinners, thus abide with me!
5. Thou on my head in early youth didst smile,
And, though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee:
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me!
6. I need Thy presence every passing hour:
What but Thy grace can foil the Tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!
7. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless:
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.
8. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee.
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me! ✚

LESSON VI.

am mu ni' tion: *powder and ball.*

camp; *group of tents.*

con ster na' tion: *amazement.*

fal' ter ing; *hesitating.*

moose; *animal of the deer kind.*

tem' ples; *portions of the head between forehead and ear.*

thick' ets; *a thick growth of small trees or shrubs.*

THE CAPTIVES.

1. About twelve miles from the sea, on the Merrimac River, in Massachusetts, is the beautiful town of Haverhill. It was a small settlement in 1692, and it was easy for the Indians to descend the river in their canoes and attack it. Two boys, Isaac Bradley, fifteen years old, and Joseph Whittaker, eleven, were at work one day in Mr. Bradley's field, when a party of Indians sprang out of the woods and seized them. Isaac was small, but was bright and brave; Joseph, though four years younger, was as large as Isaac, but he had less heart and strength.

2. The Indians did not stop to kill any of the settlers, but hastened away, traveling through the woods to beautiful Lake Winnipiseogee, where they had established their camp for the winter. In a very short time Isaac picked up enough of their language to know what they were saying.

"We shall go to Canada in spring," was what he heard them say.

3. April came; the snow was gone, the wild-flowers were blooming in the woods. In a few days the Indians would be on their march. But Isaac had no intention of going to Canada. Day after day he thought the matter over. He knew that the English settlements were far away to the south, but there was no path. He had no compass. How could he know the way? He would be guided by the sun during the day, and by the stars at

night. He would make the trial. Even though he should perish, death would be better than captivity.

4. "I am going to try it to-morrow night. I am afraid you will not wake," he said to Joseph, who always slept soundly, and snored in his sleep. *

"Oh, yes, I will!" answered Joseph.

5. The Indians had killed a moose, and Isaac managed to conceal a large piece of the meat in the bushes near the camp. He filled his pockets with bread. Night came; all were asleep except Isaac, who was so stirred by the thought of escape that his eyes would not close. Every sense was quickened. He arose softly and touched Joseph, who was sound asleep. The boy did not stir, and Isaac shook him harder.

"What do you want?" asked Joseph.

6. In an instant Isaac was stretched out by his side and snoring. The Indians did not wake; and after a little while the boys arose softly, and crept out of the wigwam, Isaac taking with him an Indian gun and ammunition. They found the meat in the bushes, took it in their arms, and started upon the run, being guided in their way by the stars. On through the wilderness, amid the tall trees, over fallen trunks, over stones, through thickets and tangled brushwood, they traveled till morning, and then crept into a hollow log.

7. Great was the consternation in the camp of the Indians. Their captives gone! A gun taken! At day-break the Indians with the dogs were on their track and in swift pursuit. The boys hear the barking of the dogs, which soon come sniffing round the log. What shall they do? Isaac is quick-witted.

8. "Good fellow, Bose! Good fellow! Here is some breakfast for you," he said, as he tossed the moose-meat to them. The dogs knew his voice; they knew that he

was their friend. They devoured the meat, and trotted forward into the woods. The Indians came upon the run. The boys heard their voices as they hastened after the dogs.

9. Through the day they lay quietly in the log, and when night came they started out again, but in a different direction from that taken by the Indians. All night long they traveled, nibbling the bread in their pockets. Morning came, and again they concealed themselves. Once more at night they were on the march. On the third day Isaac shot a pigeon; but they did not dare to build a fire, and so they ate it raw. Afterwards they found a turtle, smashed its shell, and ate the meat.

10. Day after day they toiled on, eating roots and the buds of the trees just ready to burst into leaf. On the sixth day they suddenly found themselves close to an Indian camp. They stole softly away and ran as fast as their legs could carry them. The morning of the eighth day came. Joseph's strength was failing; his courage had all gone. He cried bitterly.

"Cheer up, Joseph! Here are some groundnuts. Here, drink some water!" said Isaac.

11. But no encouraging words, no act of kindness, could cheer the fainting boy. What could Isaac do? Stay and die with him, or try to find his way out? Sad, indeed, was the parting—the younger lying down to die upon a mossy bank, the older turning away, alone, lost in the wilderness.

12. With faltering steps Isaac pushed on, and soon discovered a house. No one was living in it; but he knew that there must be white men not far away. With a lighter heart he turned back to the dying boy, awakened him from sleep, rubbed his legs, and bathed his temples.

"Come, Joseph, we are saved! Help is near!" He led him a few steps, then took him on his back, and stag-

gered with him through the woods until at last he struck a beaten path.

13. Brave Isaac Bradley! The world's history has many a story of heroic action, but none nobler or braver than this act of yours! Before night they reached a fort upon the Saco River, and astonished the soldiers with the story of their adventures. X

LESSON VII.

| | |
|---|---|
| trop'ic al; <i>relating to hot countries.</i> | rep re sent'; <i>forms.</i> |
| veg e ta' tion; <i>plant-life.</i> | with'er; <i>become dry.</i> |
| e qua'tor; <i>the great circle on the earth's surface equally distant from the poles.</i> | des ti na' tion; <i>terminal point.</i> |
| ex' ports; <i>products sent to other countries.</i> | ma jes' tic; <i>grand, stately.</i> |
| co' coa nut; <i>fruit of the cocoa palm.</i> | tor' rid zone; <i>the hot belt extending on each side of the equator.</i> |
| sprouts; <i>shoots of a plant.</i> | fi' brous; <i>threadlike.</i> |
| gi gan'tic; <i>huge.</i> | flu' id; <i>a liquid.</i> |
| | ex ten'sive ly; <i>widely.</i> |
| | es'ti ma ted; <i>reckoned.</i> |

TROPICAL FRUITS.

1. Those who have not visited tropical countries can scarcely imagine the wonders of their vegetation. There is nothing in the northern half of the United States with which to compare the richness of the vegetable growth of the tropics.

2. In the Southern States of our Union, as well as in Mexico and Central America, there are found many of the same plants and trees that grow in countries lying still nearer the equator.

The various kinds of fruits which grow in these countries form a very large portion of the exports. Among those which are most commonly sent to us are bananas, oranges, lemons, dates, cocoanuts, and figs.

3. In countries where the banana grows most abundantly no article of food which the natives can obtain requires so little trouble in its cultivation.

One has only to set out a few banana sprouts, and await the result. In a short time, a juicy stem shoots up to the height of fifteen or twenty feet.

It is formed of nothing more than a number of leaf stalks rolled one over the other, and grows sometimes to a thickness of two feet.

4. Two gigantic leaves grow out from the top, ten feet long and two feet broad. They are so very thin and tender that a light wind splits them into ribbons.

From the center of the leaves a very strong stalk rises up, which supports the cluster of bananas. There are sometimes over one hundred bananas to a single stalk.

5. A cluster of ripe bananas will weigh from sixty to seventy pounds, and represents a large amount of food. When a stalk has produced and ripened its fruit, it begins to wither, and soon dies. In a very short time, however, new sprouts spring up from the old root, and ere long the native has another cluster. So rapidly do they follow each other that one cluster is scarcely consumed before another one is ready to ripen.

6. Bananas ripened on the stalk will not bear transportation to any great distance; therefore, when selected for export, the clusters are cut off while the bananas are very green. Having reached their point of destination, they are hung up in warerooms, where they will gradually ripen.

7. Another valuable fruit of the tropics is the date. This fruit grows on a tree called the date palm, which is found in both Asia and Africa.

The date palm is a majestic tree, rising to the height of sixty feet or more, without branches, and with a trunk of uniform thickness throughout its length.

It begins to bear fruit about eight years after it has been planted, and continues to be productive from seventy to one hundred years.

8. Dates are oval in shape, and have a long, solid stone. They form the principal food of the inhabitants of some of the Eastern countries, and are an important article of commerce.

When they are perfectly ripe, they possess a delightful perfume, and are very agreeable to the taste.

In preparing dates to be sent to distant countries, they are gathered a short time before they are quite ripe, dried in the sun on mats, and finally packed in boxes or straw sacks.

9. Travelers in the deserts of Africa often carry dried dates with them for their chief food, during a journey of hundreds of miles.

The Arabs grind dried dates into a powder which they call date flour. If this is packed away in a dry place, it will keep for years, and only has to be moistened with a little water to be ready for eating.

10. One of the most valuable and productive of tropical trees is the cocoanut palm. It grows largely in both the East and West Indies, and elsewhere throughout the torrid zone.

It rises to a height of from sixty to one hundred feet, and terminates in a crown of graceful, waving leaves. Some of these leaves reach a length of twenty feet, and have the appearance of gigantic feathers.

The fruit consists of a thick outward husk of a fibrous structure, and within this is the ordinary cocoanut of commerce.

11. The shell of the nut is hard and woody, and a little over a quarter of an inch in thickness. Next to this shell is the kernel, which is also a shell about half an inch

thick, and composed of a white substance very pleasant to the taste. Within this white eatable shell is a milky liquid called cocoanut milk.

12. The cocoanut is very useful to the natives of the regions in which it grows. The nuts supply a large portion of their food, and the milky fluid inclosed within forms a pleasant and refreshing drink.

The shell of the nut is made into cups, and from the kernel cocoanut oil is pressed, which is largely used in making soap, besides serving other purposes.

13. In Ceylon, the tree is cultivated extensively. It is estimated that there are twenty million trees in that island, and that each tree produces about sixty nuts yearly. The wealth of a native is based upon the number of cocoanut palms he owns.

14. Another well-known tropical fruit is the fig, which grows on a bush or small tree about eighteen or twenty feet high.

The fig tree is now cultivated in all the Mediterranean countries, but the larger portion of the American supply comes from western Asia and the south of France.

The varieties are extremely numerous, and the fruit is of various colors, from deep purple to yellow, or nearly white.

15. The trees usually bear two crops, one in early summer, the other in autumn.

When ripe, the figs are picked and spread out to dry in the sun. Thus prepared, the fruit is packed closely in barrels, baskets, or wooden boxes, for commerce.

16. Oranges and lemons are cultivated in nearly all warm countries. They grow on trees somewhat smaller than apple trees, and must be picked for export while they are hard and green.

They ripen during transportation, so that green oranges, put up and sent to us from Sicily or other distant points, change to a golden yellow color by the time they reach us.

17. Oranges are grown largely in Florida, Louisiana, and California, extensive orange orchards being frequently met with in traveling through those States. The oranges grown there are considered very choice, and generally are sweeter than those brought from Italy.

LESSON VIII.

good-hu' mor; *merriment*.

mar' ried; *wedded*.

harsh; *rough*.

frail; *delicate*.

draw' ing; *picturing*.

en ter tained'; *received and
provided for*.

dis tin' guished; *highly honored*.

at his wits' end; *found no ideas*.

scul' lion; *dishwasher*.

crit' ics; *judges*.

per suad' ed; *won over*.

gen' ius; *high gifts*.

THE DISHWASHER WHO BECAME AN ARTIST.

1. In a little Italian village there once lived a stone-cutter named Pisano. He was poor, of course, but he was full of good-humor, and everybody was fond of him.

2. There was one little boy, especially, who loved old Pisano, and whom Pisano loved more than anybody else in the world. This was Antonio Canova, Pisano's grandson. He had come to live with his grandfather, because his father was dead and his mother had married another man, who was unkind and harsh to little Antonio. The boy was a frail little fellow, and his grandfather liked to have him near during his working hours.

3. While Pisano worked at stonecutting, Antonio played at it and amused himself with making clay figures, drawing, and cutting into shape small pieces of rock which lay about the yard. The old grandfather soon saw that the

pale-faced little fellow at his side was wonderfully skillful at such things.

4. As the boy grew older, he began to help in the shop during the day, while in the evening his grandmother told him stories or sang to him. All these things were of great value to him, for, without his knowing it, they were improving his taste and awakening his imagination.

5. It so happened that Signor Faliero, a man of great wealth and rare understanding in matters of art, had a palace near Pisano's house, and at certain times entertained many distinguished guests there. When there were a great number of visitors at the palace, old Pisano was sometimes hired to help the servants with their tasks; and Antonio would do kitchen work there, for a day or two, when some great feast was given.

6. At one time, when Signor Faliero was to entertain a very large company at dinner, young Antonio was at work among the pots and pans in the kitchen. The head servant came in, just before the dinner hour, in great trouble. The man who had been at work upon the large ornament for the table had sent word that he had spoiled the piece. What was to be done? The poor fellow whose business it was to set the table was at his wits' end.

7. While every one was wondering what it would be best to do, the little boy came forward and said, "If you will let me try, I think I can make something that will do."

"You?" cried the servant; "and who are you?"

8. "I am Antonio Canova, the grandson of Pisano," answered the pale-faced little fellow.

"And, pray, what can you do?" asked the servant.

"I can make something that will do for the center of the table," said the boy, "if you'll let me try."

9. The servant, not knowing what else to do, told Antonio that he might try. Calling for a large quantity of

butter, the boy quickly molded a great crouching lion, which everybody in the kitchen said was beautiful, and which the now rejoicing head servant carefully placed upon the table.

10. At the dinner that day there were many of the most noted men of Venice, — merchants, princes, noblemen, and lovers of art, — and among them were many skilled critics of art. On approaching the table, their eyes fell upon the butter lion, and they forgot the purpose for which they had entered the dining-room. They saw something of higher worth in their eyes than any dinner could be, namely, a work of genius.

11. They looked at the lion long and carefully, and then began praising it, and asking Faliero to tell them what great sculptor he had persuaded to waste his skill upon a work in butter that must quickly melt away. But Signor Faliero knew as little as they did, and he, in turn, had to ask the chief servant. When the company learned that the lion was the work of a scullion, Faliero called the boy into the dining-room, and the dinner became a sort of feast in his honor.

12. But these men not merely praised the lad. Believing that a genius such as his belonged to the world, not only to his home village, nothing could please them more than to aid in giving him an education. Signor Faliero himself declared that he would pay the boy's expenses, and place him under the instruction of the best masters.

13. The boy, whose highest ambition had been to become a village stonecutter, and whose home had been in his poor old grandfather's cottage, at once became a member of Signor Faliero's family, living in his palace, having at his command everything that money could buy, and being daily instructed by the best masters of Venice.

14. But he was not in the least spoiled by this change in his life. He was still the same simple, earnest, and faithful boy. He worked as hard to gain knowledge and skill in art as he had meant to work when he wished to become a good stonecutter. Antonio Canova's course, from the day on which he molded butter into a lion, was steadily upward, and when he died, he was not only one of the greatest sculptors of his own time, but one of the greatest of all time. He died at Venice in 1822.

LESSON IX.

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| pa poos'es; <i>Indian children.</i> | splints; <i>pieces split off.</i> |
| en dur'ance; <i>bearing, suffering.</i> | dec'o ra ted; <i>adorned.</i> |
| fa'tal; <i>deadly.</i> | mo not'o nous; <i>unvaried.</i> |
| in dig'ni ties; <i>abuses.</i> | rhyth'mic al; <i>musically meas-</i> |
| pos'ture; <i>position.</i> | <i>ured.</i> |
| sus pend'ed; <i>hung.</i> | lull'a by; <i>cradle song.</i> |
| civ'il ized; <i>refined.</i> | coo'ing; <i>a low sound such as</i> |
| bass; birch; lin'den; pop'lar; <i>trees.</i> | <i>doves utter.</i> |
| dressed; <i>prepared.</i> | wink'ing; <i>closing and opening</i> |
| plait'ed; <i>braided.</i> | <i>the eyes.</i> |
| in sub or di na'tion; <i>disorder, disobedience, disrespect.</i> | |

PAPOOSES.

1. To the savage mind endurance and courage are of about the same meaning. Endurance was the first lesson learned by the baby Indian; it was the last act of the Indian's life as, bound to the fatal stake, he laughed at the insults of his captors and urged them to greater indignities that they might see how a warrior could die.

2. The Indian baby's first lesson, as has been said, was one of endurance. Strapped to a flat piece of wood, and suspended from a tree or secured to the back of his hard-working mother, the little papoose took his first views of life from this painful posture.

3. But though endurance was a command early impressed, the little red baby was as fondly nurtured as is the petted darling of many a civilized home to-day. Its hard cradle board was made comfortable with softly dressed buckskin, or fragrant with a bed of sweet grass and odorous ribbons of the bark of bass, or linden tree. The finest network that the mother could make, or the most skillfully plaited reed splints and grass that she could braid, decorated her baby's bed, and over and over again she sang the little one to sleep with her monotonous but rhythmical lullaby.

4. Mr. H. W. Elliot relates that, being one day near old Fort Casper, he paused to kneel and drink from a stream he was crossing. "Suddenly," he says, "my attention was engaged by a succession of queer, cooing sounds that caused me to look curiously about in the surrounding birch and poplar thicket. Here I discovered, to the right and just above me, five papooses slung to the trees, all alone in their glory, amusing themselves by winking and staring at one another, apparently as happy as clams at high water. But, unfortunately for their calmness, they caught sight of the paleface, and with one accord began to howl in dismal and terrified tones, so that in less than a minute six or seven squaws came crashing through the underbrush. Happy mothers! It was not, as they had feared, a bear, and the tempest was subdued at once."

5. Up to two years of age the Indian baby is kept lashed to the unyielding board, which is alike carriage and cradle. Once a day its cords are loosed and it is allowed to play and roll upon the grass or a blanket. When the mother is busy, the board, baby and all, is hung upon the most convenient tree or placed in a corner of the lodge. After two years the papoose's real education begins. The girls, as soon as they can carry a small weight,

are taught to go for wood. When about eight years old, the girl learns how to make up a pack, and begins to carry a small one on her back. As she grows older, she learns to cut wood, to cultivate corn, and to do other branches of the Indian woman's work. The small girls enjoy playing with their dolls in such leisure hours as they have, and though girls and boys rarely play together, both are just as fond of making mud pies as are other little folks of our day.

6. The boys are allowed to run wild, and are spared anything that seems like labor or work. They learn to swim, to run, to jump, to wrestle. They have their ball games, "shinny" and football, as well as a kind of base ball called lacrosse; they fly their kites, play hide-and-seek, blind man's buff, and hunt the slipper. The Indian boy is put to practice with blunted arrows at the birds that are found around his forest home. He is rarely punished for disobedience or insubordination.

7. Indian children are light-hearted and cheerful, rippling with laughter and mischievous fun. They play sly tricks upon the dogs and on one another constantly, and are much given to singing.

LESSON X.

ad vanced'; *went on.*
 hewed; *shaped with an ax.*
 fur' ni ture; *household goods.*
 scant; *not plentiful.*
 bench' es; *long seats.*
 trays; *large plates.*
 square; *four-cornered.*
 pew' ter dish' es; *dishes made chiefly of tin and lead.*
 cup' board (kub' berd); *a case with shelves.*
 crane; *iron arm.*
 broiled; *cooked by being put over a clear fire.*

beer; *a drink.*
 con' sti tu ted; *made up.*
 lac' quered; *with a glossy surface.*
 mush; *a soft, thick preparation of food.*
 dis play'; *show.*
 lace; *network of fine threads.*
 buc' kles; *fastenings for straps.*
 breech' es (briech' es); *trousers.*
 ser' mon; *an address on a text of Scripture.*
 coast' ing; *sliding down a hill on a sled.*

LIFE IN THE COLONIAL TIME.

1. When people first came to this country, they had to take up with such houses as they could get. In Virginia and New England, as in New York and Philadelphia, holes were dug in the ground for dwelling places by some of the first settlers. Sometimes a rude cabin was built of round logs, and without a floor. In some places bark wigwams were made, like those of the Indians. As time advanced, better houses were built. Some of these were of hewn logs, some of planks, split or sawed out by hand. The richer people built good houses soon after they came. Most of these houses had a large room in the middle, called "the hall."

2. The chimneys were generally very large, with wide fireplaces. Sometimes there were seats inside the fireplace, and children, sitting on these seats in the evening, amused themselves by watching the stars through the top of the chimney. In the early houses most of the windows had paper instead of glass. This paper was oiled, so as to let light come through.

3. Except in the houses of rich people, the furniture was scant and rough. Benches, stools, and tables were homemade. Beds were often filled with weeds, the down of plants, or the feathers of wild pigeons. People who were not rich brought their food to the table in wooden trays, and ate off wooden plates. Some used square blocks of wood instead of plates. Neither rich nor poor, in England or America, had forks when the first colonies were settled. Meat was cut with a knife and eaten with the fingers. On the tables of well-to-do people pewter dishes were much used, and a row of shining pewter in an open cupboard was a sign of good housekeeping. The richest people had silverware for use on great occasions. They

also had stately furniture brought from England. But carpets were hardly ever seen. The floor of the best room was strewn with sand, which was marked off in ornamental figures. There was no wall paper until long after 1700, but rich cloths were hung on the walls of the finest houses.

4. Cooking was done in front of fireplaces in broad, shallow pans that stood upon legs, so that coal could be put under them, and in pots and kettles that hung over the fire on a swinging crane, so that they could be drawn out or pushed back. Sometimes there was an oven, for baking, built in the side of the chimney. Meat was roasted on a spit in front of the fire. The spit was an iron rod thrust through the piece to be roasted, and turned by a crank. A whole pig or fowl was sometimes hung up before the fire, and turned about while it roasted. Often pieces of meat were broiled by throwing them on the live coal.

5. A mug of homemade beer, with bread and cheese, or a porridge of pease or beans, boiled with a little meat, constituted the breakfast of the early colonists. Neither tea nor coffee was known in England or this country until long after the first colonies were settled. When tea came in, it became a fashionable drink, and was served to company from pretty little china cups, set on lacquered tables. Mush, made of the meal of Indian corn, was eaten for supper.

6. People of wealth made great display in their dress. Much lace and many silver buckles and buttons were worn. Workingmen of all sorts wore leather, deerskin, or coarse canvas breeches. The stockings worn by men were long, the breeches were short, and buckled, or otherwise fastened, at the knees.

7. The early settlers traveled about in canoes and little sailing boats. For a long time there were no roads except

Indian trails and bridle-paths, which could be traveled only on foot or on horseback. Goods were carried on pack horses. When roads were made, wagons came into use.

8. In a life so hard and busy as that of the early settlers, there was little time for education. The schools were few and generally poor. Boys, when taught at all, learned to read, write, and "cast accounts." Girls were taught even less. Many of the children born when the colonies were new grew up unable to write their names. There were few books at first, and no newspapers until after 1700. There was little to occupy the mind except the Sunday sermon.

9. In all the colonies there was a great deal of hunting and fishing. The woods were full of deer and wild turkeys. Flocks of pigeons often darkened the sky, and the rivers were alive with waterfowl and fish. In the Middle and Southern colonies the people were fond of horse racing and many other rude sports brought from England. Coasting on the snow, skating, and sleighing were brought to America from Holland by the Dutch settlers of New York.

LESSON XI.

ma tu' ri ty; *ripeness*.
in fe' ri or; *lower*.
tool; *an instrument*.

bungs; *stoppers for barrels*.
con' tra ry; *opposite*.
de fect' ive; *imperfect*.

CORK.

1. That most useful substance called cork is the thick, spongy, external bark of a species of oak. The tree grows to the height of upwards of thirty feet, and is a native of Spain, Portugal, Italy, Barbary, and some of the southern parts of France.

2. It bears a strong resemblance to the evergreen oak, and attains to a great age. When arrived at a certain state of maturity, it sheds its bark; but the quality of

the bark so separated is inferior to that which is obtained by removing it at a proper time.

3. When the outer bark is removed, the inner bark appears below it, and from this the cork is reproduced in the course of a few years. The trees are generally peeled once in ten years.

4. The best cork is obtained from the oldest trees, the bark of the young trees being too porous for use. They are, nevertheless, stripped of their bark before they are twenty years old, it having been found that after every stripping the bark increases in value.

5. After the pieces of bark are detached, they are soaked in water, and, when nearly dry, are placed over a fire of coal, which blackens their surface, but makes them more smooth. They are next loaded with weights to make them even, and are afterwards dried and stacked, or packed in bales for exportation.

6. The spongy nature of cork makes it serve well for the stopping of bottles and other vessels, and thus preventing liquids from running out, or the air from getting in. In the cutting of corks for this use, the only tool employed is a very broad, thin, and sharp knife.

7. The corks for bottles are cut lengthwise of the bark, and consequently the pores lie across. Bungs, and corks of large size, are cut in a contrary direction; the pores in these are therefore downward, which renders them much more defective than the others in stopping out the air.

LESSON XII.

ob ser va' tion; *investigation.*

spear; *a long pointed weapon.*

squirm' ing; *moving like a worm.*

quoth; *said.*

snake; *a serpent.*

mar' vel; *wonder.*

scope; *reach.*

dis put' ed; *debated.*

THE BLIND MEN AND THE ELEPHANT.

1. It was six men of Indostan,
To learning much inclined,
Who went to see the elephant,
(Though all of them were blind,) That each by observation
Might satisfy his mind.
2. The first approached the elephant,
And, happening to fall
Against his broad and sturdy side,
At once began to bawl:
"Oh, dear me! but the elephant
Is very like a wall!"
3. The second, feeling of the tusk,
Cried: "Ho! what have we here,
So very round, and smooth, and sharp?
To me 'tis very clear,
This wonder of an elephant
Is very like a spear!"
4. The third approached the animal,
And, happening to take
The squirming trunk within his hands,
Thus boldly up he spake:
"I see," quoth he, "the elephant
Is very like a snake!"
5. The fourth reached out his eager hand,
And fell about the knee:
"What most this wondrous beast is like,
Is very plain," quoth he;
"'Tis clear enough, the elephant
Is very like a tree!"
6. The fifth, who chanced to touch the ear,
Said: "E'en the blindest man
Can tell what this resembles most:
Deny the fact who can,
This marvel of an elephant
Is very like a fan!"

7. The sixth no sooner had begun
 About the beast to grope,
 Than, seizing on the swinging tail
 That fell within his scope,
 "I see," quoth he, "the elephant
 Is very like a rope!"
8. And so these men of Indostan
 Disputed loud and long,
 Each in his own opinion
 Exceeding stiff and strong,
 Though each was partly in the right,
 And all were in the wrong!

LESSON XIII.

| | |
|---|---|
| quick' sil ver; <i>a liquid metal.</i> | af fect' ed; <i>influenced.</i> |
| cast' ing; <i>shaping out of liquid metal.</i> | ap ply'; <i>use.</i> |
| in' flu ence; <i>power.</i> | ba rom' e ter; <i>an instrument for measuring the pressure of the atmosphere.</i> |
| ther mom' e ter; <i>an instrument for measuring heat.</i> | mir' ror; <i>looking-glass.</i> |
| de gree'; <i>a division on the thermometer.</i> | re verse' side; <i>the back side.</i> |
| tem' per a ture; <i>degree of heat or cold.</i> | ad here'; <i>stick.</i> |
| ze' ro; <i>naught.</i> | dis solved'; <i>changed to a liquid.</i> |
| sim' i lar; <i>resembling.</i> | com bines'; <i>unites.</i> |
| vol' ume; <i>size.</i> | pre scribed'; <i>ordered.</i> |
| | phy si' cians; <i>doctors.</i> |
| | sul' phur; <i>a mineral substance.</i> |
| | ver mil' ion; <i>red paint.</i> |

QUICKSILVER.

Father. Did you ever see a liquid metal, boys?

Robert. Yes, sir, I did. The other day when I was in the foundry and watched the casting of railroad car wheels, I saw the men carry vessels full of liquid iron, which was sparkling like fire.

Father. Very well, but that iron was under the influence of an immense heat, for it had just come out of

the melting furnace, where it had been changed from the solid to the liquid state. I mean a metal which in common temperature remains as liquid as water, and requires so low a degree as 39 below zero to attain a firmness similar to that of other metals.

William. No, indeed! I am sure I never saw such a metal.

Father. You may find some of it within this room. Look for it near the window.

William. Do you mean, father, that whitish stuff which fills part of the narrow tube of our thermometer?

Father. That is what I mean. Do you know the name of this substance?

Robert. It is called quicksilver. But I never knew that it is a metal.

Father. It is a metal much the same as gold, silver, iron, copper, tin, and the like. But do you know the service which is rendered by the quicksilver in the thermometer?

Robert. It points out the temperature of the air; but I do not exactly understand how it can do that.

Father. I will explain it to you. The volume of all bodies is increased by heat, and decreased by cold; but there is scarcely any other substance which shows this so plainly, and is affected by heat or cold so thoroughly, as quicksilver. The warmer, therefore, the surroundings of the thermometer are, the higher the pillar of the quicksilver rises in the tube; whilst a low temperature causes it to fall. By the marks of the scale to which the quicksilver reaches we are able to tell the degree of heat or cold.

William. But if quicksilver is nearly always liquid, man cannot coin money, or make vessels or tools from it, as is done from other metals. I suppose the only use to which it may be turned is in the thermometer.

Father. Far from it! Though it is true that we can not apply quicksilver in the same manner and for the same purposes as most of the other metals, there are, besides its employment in the thermometer and barometer, many other uses of it. Without it, for instance, we would have no such mirrors as we now have. The gray coating which you see on the reverse side of a looking-glass, and which causes the reflection of light, is partly quicksilver.

Robert. How can this liquid metal be made to adhere to a pane of glass?

Father. Most metals are dissolved by quicksilver, which then combines with them and forms a firm substance. It is a mixture of quicksilver and tin which is employed in the manufacture of mirrors. This quality of acting so powerfully on other metals fits the quicksilver in helping to refine silver and gold.

William. How is this done?

Father. The ore is crushed and ground into powder. When quicksilver is mixed with the powder, the gold or silver contained in it readily unites with the quicksilver and is easily separated by the application of heat. The quicksilver vaporizes and leaves the silver or gold behind.

Robert. I remember having heard one day that a person was poisoned by taking quicksilver.

Father. Yes, it is a dangerous poison, but preparations of it are frequently prescribed by physicians in the cure of diseases. Still, I may add that a combination of quicksilver and sulphur is that beautiful scarlet-red paint, called vermilion.

William. Where is quicksilver found?

Father. There are quicksilver mines in many parts of Europe, Asia, and America. The richest in the Old World are in Spain, while in this continent California, and Peru in South America, furnish most of this remarkable metal.

LESSON XIV.

| | |
|--|--|
| stanch; <i>firm.</i> | yearn'ings; <i>longings.</i> |
| reb'el; <i>one opposing the govern-ment.</i> | weave; <i>to form into.</i> |
| rice; <i>a grain.</i> | gowns; <i>loose upper garments.</i> |
| har'vest; <i>crop.</i> | au thor' i ty; <i>rightful power.</i> |
| shirts; <i>under-garments.</i> | ca reer'ing; <i>bounding.</i> |
| grim'ly; <i>fiercely, sternly.</i> | ad vice'; <i>counsel.</i> |
| lat' ter; <i>last mentioned.</i> | wrist' lets; <i>elastic bands for the lower arm.</i> |
| skir' mish; <i>a slight fight in war.</i> | ti' dings; <i>news.</i> |
| | cause; <i>side of a question.</i> |

A BRAVE AMERICAN GIRL.

1. At the time of our story, 1780, our heroine, Cynthia Smith, was a little girl at home on a plantation near the Santee River, in South Carolina. She was twelve years old, four feet high, and as stanch a rebel as you could have found in all America at the time; for the War of Independence had been raging in the United States ever since Cynthia could remember.

2. When she was only five years old, her little heart had beaten hard at the story of the famous "Boston Tea Party," at which a whole shipload of tea had been emptied into the harbor because King George of England insisted on "a threepenny tax."

3. The following year, when England shut up the harbor of Boston, not a mouthful of rice did Cynthia get to eat, for her father had sent his whole harvest to the North, as did many another Southern planter. Soon after that, John, Cynthia's brother, went to Massachusetts to visit Uncle Hezekiah, and the next June they heard that he had been shot dead at the battle of Bunker Hill.

4. Cynthia wept hot tears on her coarse homespun apron; but she dried them in a sort of strange delight when Tom, her second brother, insisted on taking John's

place and following a certain George Washington to the war.

5. "It's 'Liberty or Death' we have marked on our shirts, and it's 'Liberty or Death' we have burned into our hearts," Tom afterwards wrote home; and his mother wrung her hands, and his father grimly smiled.

"Just wait, you two other boys," said the latter. "We'll have the war at our own doors before it is all over."

6. He said this because Will and Ebenezer wished to follow in Tom's footsteps. Cynthia longed to be a boy, so that she might have a skirmish with the "Britishers" on her own account. But she had little time for patriotic dreamings and yearnings. There was a good deal of work to be done in those days; and Cynthia helped to weave cloth for the family gowns and trousers, and to spin and knit yarn for the family stockings. This kept her very busy.

7. In 1776, when Cynthia was eight years old, two important events had happened — important, at least, to her. One was the signing of the Declaration of Independence, which she could not quite understand; the other was the birth of a red-and-white calf in Mr. Smith's barn. Her heart beat fast with feelings of patriotism when she heard her father read from a sheet of paper which some one had given him, "All men are born free and equal;" but she went almost wild with joy when her father gave her the little calf to be all her own.

8. Cynthia, giving free scope to her feelings, named the calf, "Free-'n'-equal;" and if ever an animal deserved such a name, it was this one. It scorned all authority, kicked up its hind-legs, and went careering round the plantation at its own sweet will, only coming to the barn when Cynthia's call was heard.

9. Free-'n'-equal was Cynthia's only playmate, for there was no child besides herself within six miles of the Smiths. As the calf grew and became a cow, they remained friends. Cynthia confided all her secrets to Free-'n'-equal, and it seemed as though she asked her advice about many an important undertaking. She even showed her a pair of wristlets she had worked for Tom, who had, in the winter of 1777 to 1778, gone with General Washington to Pennsylvania.

10. Alas! Tom never wore those wristlets. He was one of the many who died of hunger and cold in that awful Valley Forge. Cynthia believed that Free-'n'-equal understood all the sorrow of her heart when she told her the pitiful news. Quite as much did she share her joy when, a few months later, Cynthia came flying to the barn with the tidings that Lafayette had come from France to aid the American cause.

LESSON XV.

rust' y; *affected with rust.*

scar' let-breast' ed; *breast with orange-red color.*

a back'; *surprised.*

war whoop; *war cry of Indians.*

dart' ed; *shot.*

chal' lenged; *demande'd an answer.*

par' lor; *the best room.*

courte' sy; *bending of the knees.*

hum; *an emotional expression.*

a bashed'; *confused.*

flush; *blush.*

mount; *rise up.*

His Maj' es ty; *the King.*

clasped; *held tight.*

A BRAVE AMERICAN GIRL.

(Concluded.)

11. Again Cynthia's joy vanished, and she sobbed her woe into Free-'n'-equal's ear when Sir Henry Clinton captured Charleston, only twenty miles away. And a few

months later her grief was beyond control. "For General Gates has come down to South Carolina, and father and Will and Hezekiah have gone to fight in his army."

12. Those were days of alarm along the Santee River, for the British soldiers were roaming all around and laying waste the country. But Cynthia was not afraid — no, not even when Lord Cornwallis came within three miles of the plantation. She said her prayers every day, and believed firmly in the guardian angels and a certain rusty gun behind the kitchen door. She was not afraid even when a redcoat did sometimes rise above the horizon. She had no more fear of him than of the scarlet-breasted bird which sang above her head when she went into the woods near by to gather sticks.

13. It is no wonder, then, that she was taken all aback when, one afternoon, as she came home with her bundle of sticks, her mother met her and said: "Cynthia, they have been here and driven off Free-'n'-equal."

"They have?" gasped Cynthia. "Who?"

"The British soldiers. They tied a rope round her horns, and dragged her along to their camp. Cynthia, Cynthia, what shall we do?"

14. Cynthia uttered a sound which was like a groan and a war whoop, and darted out of the door.

Along the dusty road she ran, on and on. Her yellow sunbonnet fell back on her shoulders, and her brown curls were covered with dust. One mile, two miles, three miles — on and on. At last she reached a small house which was Lord Cornwallis's headquarters. Never a moment did Cynthia pause. The sentinels challenged her, but without answering a word she marched straight past them. Into the house — into the parlor — she walked. There sat Lord Cornwallis and some six of his officers, eating and drinking at a big table.

15. Cynthia stopped at the threshold and dropped a courtesy. Lord Cornwallis glanced up and saw her. Then Miss Cynthia dropped another courtesy, opened her lips, and began to speak.

"I am Cynthia Smith," said she, gravely, "and your men have taken my cow, Free-'n'-equal Smith, and I've come to fetch her home, if you please."

16. "Your cow?" questioned Lord Cornwallis, with a wine-glass in his hand.

"They carried her off by a rope," said Cynthia.

"Where do you live?" asked the general.

"Three miles away, with my mother."

"Have you no father?"

"One, and four brothers."

"Where is your father?"

"He is in General Gates's army, Mr. Lord Cornwallis."

"Oh, he is a rebel, is he?"

"Yes, sir," said Miss Cynthia, proudly.

17. "And where are your brothers?"

Cynthia paused. "John went to heaven, along with General Warren, from the top of Bunker Hill," said she, with a trembling lip.

One of the younger officers smiled, but he stopped when he saw Lord Cornwallis's eyes flashing at him.

"And Tom went to heaven out of Valley Forge, where he was helping General Washington," added Cynthia, softly.

18. "Where are the other two?"

"In the army, Mr. Lord Cornwallis." Cynthia's head was erect again.

"Rank rebels," said Cornwallis.

"Yes, they are."

"Hum! And you are a bit of a rebel too, I am thinking, if the truth were told."

Miss Cynthia nodded with emphasis.

"And yet you come here for your cow?" said Cornwallis. "I have no doubt but that she is rebel beef herself."

19. Cynthia paused a moment, and then said: "I think she would be if she had two less legs, and not quite so much horn."

Lord Cornwallis laughed a good-natured, hearty laugh that made the room ring. All his officers laughed too, including the miserable redcoat who had smiled over John's fate. Miss Cynthia wondered what the fun might be; but, in no wise abashed, she stood firm on her two little feet, and waited until the merriment should be over. At last, however, her face began to flush a little. What if these fine gentlemen were making fun of her, after all?

20. Lord Cornwallis saw the red blood mount in her cheeks, and he stopped laughing at once.

"Come here, my little maid," said he. "I myself will see to it that your cow is safe in your barn to-morrow morning. And perhaps," he added, unfastening a pair of silver knee buckles which he wore, "perhaps you will accept these as a gift from one who wishes no harm to these rebels. And that His Majesty himself knows."

21. Then he rose and held his wineglass above his head; so did every officer in the room.

"Here's to the health of as fair a little rebel as we shall meet, and God bless her!" said he. She dropped her final courtesy, clasped the shining buckles, and out of the room she vanished, sure in her mind that Free'n'-equal was all her own once more.

As for those buckles, they are to this day in the hands of one of Cynthia's descendants. For there was a real cow, and a real Cynthia, as well as a real Lord Cornwallis.

LESSON XVI.

sa ga' cious; *sharp-witted.*so ci' e ty; *community.*ap' pe tite; *desire.*o rig' i nal; *first in order.*nape; *back part of the neck.*ven' er a ble; *deserving of honor.*port' ly; *stout.*dame; *lady.*mat' tress; *straw sack.*in ge nu' i ty; *skill.*po lice' man; *a civil officer.*baf' fle; *check, defeat.*mor ti fi ca' tion; *shame.*in flic' ing; *applying.*loll' ing; *hanging out.*di vest'; *deprive.*con doled' with; *expressed their grief.*in dulged'; *gave way to.*il lu' sion; *deception.*jests; *jokes.*

THE SAGACIOUS DOG.

1. Aunt Esther's stories generally were not fairy tales, but stories about real things, and oftener on her favorite subject of the habits of animals than about anything else.

2. One of the animals she had known was a famous Newfoundland dog, named Prince, which belonged to an uncle of hers in the country, and was, as we thought, a far more useful and faithful member of society than many of us youngsters. Prince used to be a grave, quiet dog that considered himself put in trust of the farm, the house, the cattle, and all that was on the place. At night he slept before the kitchen door, which, like all other doors in the house in those innocent days, was left unlocked all night; and if such a thing had ever happened as that a tramp or an improper person of any kind had even touched the latch of the door, Prince would have been up attending to him as master of ceremonies.

3. At early dawn, when the family began to stir, Prince was up and out to oversee the milking of the cows, after which he gathered them all together, and started out with them to the pasture, padding steadily along behind, dashing out once in a while to reclaim some wanderer that

thoughtlessly began to make her breakfast by the roadside, instead of saving her appetite for the pasture, as a properly behaved cow should.

4. Arrived at the pasture lot, Prince would take down the bars with his teeth, drive in the cows, put up bars, and then gravely turn tail and pad off home, and carry the dinner basket for the men to the "mowing lot," or the potato field, or wherever the labors of the day might be. There arrived, he was extremely useful to send on errands after anything forgotten or missing. "Prince! the rake is missing: go to the barn and fetch it!" and away Prince would go, and come back with his head very high, and the long rake very correctly balanced in his mouth.

5. One day a friend was wondering at the sagacity of the dog, and his master thought he would show off his tricks in a still more original manner, and so, calling Prince to him, he said, "Go home and bring Puss to me!"

6. Away bounded Prince towards the farmhouse, and, looking about, found the younger of the two cats, fair Mistress Daisy, busy cleaning her white velvet in the summer sun. Prince took her gently up by the nape of her neck, and carried her, hanging head and heels together, to the fields, and laid her down at his master's feet.

7. "How's this, Prince?" said the master; "you didn't understand me. I said the cat, and this is the kitten. Go right back and bring the old cat." Prince looked very much ashamed of his mistake, and turned away, with drooping ears and tail, and went back to the house.

8. The old cat was a venerable, somewhat portly old dame, and no small lift for Prince; but he re-appeared with old Puss hanging from his jaws, and set her down, a little discomposed, but not a bit hurt by her unexpected ride.

9. Sometimes, to try Prince's skill, his master would hide his gloves or riding whip in some out-of-the-way corner, and when ready to start, would say, "Now, where have I left my gloves? Prince, good fellow, run in, and find them;" and Prince would dash into the house, and run hither and thither with his nose to every nook and corner of the room; and, no matter how artfully the gloves were hid, he would upset and tear his way to them. He would turn up the corners of the carpet, snuff about the bed, run his nose between the feather bed and mattress, pry into the crack of a half-opened drawer, and show as much zeal and ingenuity as a policeman. Seldom could anything be so hid as to baffle his endurance.

10. Many people laugh at the idea of being careful of a dog's feelings, as if it were the height of absurdity; and yet it is a fact that some dogs are as extremely touchy to pain, shame, and mortification as any human being. See, when a dog is spoken harshly to, what a universal droop seems to come over him. His head and ears sink, his tail drops and clings between his legs, and his whole air seems to say, "I wish I could sink into the earth to hide myself."

11. Prince's young master, without knowing it, was the means of inflicting a most terrible mortification on him at one time. It was very hot weather, and Prince, being a shaggy dog, lay panting, and lolling his tongue out, apparently suffering from the heat.

12. "I declare," said young Master George, "I do believe Prince would be more comfortable if he were sheared." And so forthwith he took him and began divesting him of his coat. Prince took it all very obediently; but when he appeared without his usual attire, everyone greeted him with roars of laughter, and Prince was dreadfully mortified. He broke away from his mas-

ter, and scampered off home at a desperate pace, ran down into the cellar, and disappeared from view. His young master was quite distressed that Prince took the matter so to heart; he followed him in vain, calling, "Prince! Prince!" No Prince appeared.

13. He lighted a candle and searched the cellar, and found the poor creature hiding in the darkest corner under the stairs. Prince was not to be comforted; he slunk deeper and deeper into the darkness, and crouched on the ground when he saw his master, and for a long time refused even to take food. The family all visited and condoled with him, and finally his sorrows were somewhat abated; but he would not be persuaded to leave the cellar for nearly a week. Perhaps by that time he indulged the hope that his hair was beginning to grow again, and all were careful not to destroy the illusion by any jests or remarks on his appearance.

LESSON XVII.

throat; *mouth*.
 gut' ter; *small ditch at the roadside*.
 brooks; *streamlets*.
 fe' vered; *heated*.
 com mo' tion; *tumult*.
 mim' ic; *imitated*.
 treach' er ous; *unfaithful*.

leop' ard; *a wild animal of the cat family*.
 taw' ny; *yellowish brown*.
 en cum' bered; *loaded*.
 di lat' ed; *expanded*.
 in hale'; *breathe in*.
 lus' trous; *bright*.
 in ces' sant; *ceaseless*.

RAIN IN SUMMER.

1. How beautiful is the rain!
 After the dust and the heat,
 In the broad and fiery street,
 In the narrow lane,
 How beautiful is the rain!

2. How it clatters along the roofs,
Like the tramp of the hoofs!
How it gushes and struggles out
From the throat of the overflowing spout!
Across the window pane
It pours and pours;
And swift and wide,
With a muddy tide,
Like a river down the gutter roars
The rain, the welcome rain!
3. The sick man from his chamber looks
At the twisted brooks;
He can feel the cool
Breath of each little pool;
His fevered brain
Grows calm again,
And he breathes a blessing on the rain.
4. From the neighboring school
Come the boys,
With more than their wonted noise
And commotion;
And down the wet streets
Sail their mimic fleets,
Till the treacherous pool
Engulfs them in its whirling
And turbulent ocean.
5. In the country, on every side,
Where far and wide,
Like a leopard's tawny and spotted hide,
Stretches the plain,
To the dry grass and drier grain,
How welcome is the rain!
6. In the furrowed land
The toilsome and patient oxen stand;
Lifting the yoke-encumbered head,
With their dilated nostrils spread,

They silently inhale
 The clover-scented gale,
 And the vapors that arise
 From the well-watered and smoky soil.
 For this rest in the furrow after toil
 Their large and lustrous eyes
 Seem to thank the Lord
 More than man's spoken word.

7. Near at hand,
 From under the sheltering trees,
 The farmer sees
 His pastures, and his fields of grain,
 As they bend their tops
 To the numberless beating drops
 Of the incessant rain.
 He counts it as no sin
 That he sees therein
 Only his own thrift and gain.

LESSON XVIII.

| | |
|---|---|
| ice'bergs; <i>mountains of ice.</i> | spray; <i>foam.</i> |
| stew'ard; <i>an officer on a ship.</i> | di min'ish ing; <i>decreasing.</i> |
| domes; <i>rounded tops.</i> | im press'ive; <i>touching.</i> |
| an'gu lar; <i>cornered.</i> | ac cu'mu la ting; <i>increasing.</i> |
| fan tas'tic; <i>odd.</i> | com mence'; <i>begin.</i> |
| trans par'ent; <i>that may be seen through.</i> | an ni hi la'tion; <i>total destruction.</i> |
| nooks; <i>retired places.</i> | lim'its; <i>boundaries.</i> |
| cri'sis; <i>height, decisive turn.</i> | des'o late; <i>uninhabited.</i> |
| tot'tered; <i>trembled.</i> | sen'si bly; <i>perceptibly.</i> |

ICEBERGS.

1. One morning, earlier than the usual time of rising, the steward awakened us with the news that icebergs were close at hand. This was charming intelligence, for so late in the season as August they were but rarely met with. We were all soon on deck, and for a worthy object.

2. An iceberg was in sight — a grand fellow, with two great domes, each as large as that of St. Paul's. The lower part was like frosted silver. Where the heat of the sun had melted the surface, and it had frozen again, in its gradual decay it had assumed all sorts of angular and fantastic shapes, reflecting from its green, transparent mass thousands of colors, while below the gentle swell dallied with its cliff-like sides.

3. The action of the waves had worn away a great portion of the base, just over the water, into deep nooks and caves, destroying the balance of the mass. While we were passing, the crisis of this process chanced to arrive.

4. The huge white mass tottered for a moment, then fell into the calm sea with a sound like the roar of a thousand cannon; the spray rose to a great height in the air, and large waves rolled round, spreading their wide circles over the ocean, each ring diminishing in height till at length they all sank to rest. When the spray had fallen again, the glittering domes had vanished, and a long, low island of rough snow and ice lay on the surface of the water.

5. There is something impressive and dismal in the fate of these cold and lonely wanderers of the deep. They break loose, by some effort of nature, from the shores and rivers of the unknown regions of the North, where, for centuries, perhaps, they have been accumulating, and commence their dreary voyage, which has no end but annihilation.

6. For years they may wander in the Polar Sea, till some strong gale or current bears them past its southern limits; then they float past the desolate coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland. The summer sun makes sad havoc of their strength, melting their lofty heights; but each night's frost binds up what is left, and still on, on, glides the great mass, slowly, solemnly.

7. You cannot perceive that it stirs; the greatest storm does not rock it, the keenest eye cannot discover a motion; but day by day, moment by moment, it passes to the south, where it wastes away, and vanishes at last.

8. They are most numerous in June and July, and there is often much danger from their neighborhood, in dark, moonless nights; but the thermometer, if consulted, will always indicate their approach. It fell eight degrees when we neared the iceberg which I have described, and the cold was sensibly felt.

LESSON XIX.

ro man'tic; *exciting the fancy.*

out' posts; *advanced forts.*

ex ist' ed; *had been.*

strat' e gy; *the use of trickery.*

race; *kind of men.*

strode; *walked with long steps.*

in cit' ing; *rousing to action.*

moc' ca sins; *Indian shoes.*

belt; *a band around the waist.*

wam' pum; *small beads made of shells.*

pro ces' sion; *a train of persons moving in order.*

plot; *secret plan.*

an' ger; *fury, rage.*

cul' ture; *refinement.*

a void'; *escape.*

THE STORY OF DETROIT.

1. The early history of Detroit is highly romantic. The city was founded in 1701 as a military colony.

It soon became one of the most important of the western outposts of Canada, and as the French and Indians were usually on the most friendly terms, the colony for a long time existed in a state of happiness and contentment.

2. At the close of the French War, Detroit contained over two thousand inhabitants. Canadian dwellings with their lovely gardens lined the banks of the river for miles.

Within the limits of the settlement were several Indian villages. Here the light-hearted French-Canadian smoked his pipe and told his story, and the friendly Indian supplied him with game and joined in his merrymaking.

3. In the year 1760, Detroit was taken possession of by the English.

The Indians hated the English as much as they had loved the French.

Pontiac, the ruling spirit of the forests at this time, was a most powerful and statesmanlike chief. When he found that his friends, the French, had lost their power, he sought to unite the Indian tribes against the English colonies, and to destroy the English garrison at Detroit by strategy.

4. He was chief of the Ottawas, but possessed great influence over several other tribes. Pontiac believed, and that truly, that the establishment of English colonies would be fatal to the interests of the Indian race.

He strode through the forests like a giant, inciting the tribes to war. He urged a union of all the Indian nations from the Lakes to the Mississippi for the common defense of the race.

5. There lived near Detroit a beautiful Indian girl, called Catharine.

The English commander, Gladwyn, was pleased with her, and showed her many favors, and she formed a warm friendship for him.

6. One lovely day in May, this girl came to the fort and brought Gladwyn a pair of elk-skin moccasins. She appeared very sad.

"Catharine," said Gladwyn, "what troubles you to-day?"

She did not answer at once. There was a silent struggle going on in her heart. She had formed a strong attachment for the white people, and she was also devoted to her own race.

7. "To-morrow," she said at length, "Pontiac will come to the fort with sixty of his chiefs. Each will be armed

with a gun, which will be cut short and hidden under his blanket. The chief will ask to hold a council. He will then make a speech, and offer a belt of wampum as a peace-offering.

8. "As soon as he holds up the belt, the chiefs will spring up and shoot the officers, and the Indians outside will attack the English. Every Englishman will be killed. The French inhabitants will be spared."

Gladwyn made immediate preparations to avoid the danger which threatened the English. The soldiers were put under arms. Orders were given to have them drawn up in line on the arrival of the Indians the following day.

9. The next morning Indian canoes approached the fort from the eastern shores. They contained Pontiac and his sixty chiefs. At ten o'clock the chiefs marched to the fort, in fantastic procession. Each wore a colored blanket, and was painted, plumed, or in some way gayly ornamented.

As Pontiac entered the fort, a glance showed him that his plot was discovered. He passed in amazement through glittering rows of steel. He made a speech, expressing friendship; but he did not dare to lift the wampum belt which was to have been the signal for attack.

He was allowed to depart peaceably.

10. When he found that his plot had been discovered, his anger knew no bounds. He gathered his warriors from every hand and laid siege to Detroit. He was defeated, and with his defeat ended the power of the Indian tribes in the region of the Upper Lakes.

11. Detroit became an English town, and afterward an American city. She has gathered to herself the wealth of the fertile regions which lie around her, as well as the commerce of the broad inland seas on either hand. To-day she has more than three hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, and is famous for her wealth and culture.

LESSON XX.

flaunt'ing; *making a gaudy display.*

bum'ble bee; *a wild bee.*

take on airs; *show off.*

pry'ing; *looking searchingly.*

spin'ner ets; *organs to spin the web.*

brag; *boast.*

splen' did; *fine.*

a ris to crat'ic; *refined.*

hang'ings; *curtains.*

slam; *shut with a loud noise.*

raft; *float.*

sin'gu lar; *odd.*

thim'ble; *a metal cap worn on the end of the finger.*

nurs'er y; *children's room.*

A TALK BY A SPIDER.

1. I suppose you think we spiders are nobodies, because we go about quietly, minding our own business, neither flaunting in gay colors, like Madam Butterfly, nor making noise enough to craze one, like Mr. Bumblebee. But I can tell you that our family is older than the human family, who take on so many airs, and are prying into our secrets with little microscopes of theirs.

2. However, we are an honest and industrious family, and there is nothing about us to be ashamed of. In fact, I could show you some strange things, if your eyes were not too coarse to see them. There are my spinnerets, which spin out a beautiful silk rope of more than four thousand threads as fast as I want it.

3. Wouldn't you children think it fine if you could make a string in a minute any time you wanted it? Then you have never seen my combs; you can't — they're too small. I have one on each foot, and I use them to keep myself and my web free from dust.

4. I don't like to brag, but I really think you would admire my eyes. I have eight of them — I don't see how you can get along with two, though, to be sure, you can turn yours about. Mine are placed in a square in my forehead. Those of us who live underground have their

eyes close together on their foreheads, and those who live in the air have them more separated, so as to be able to see all around.

5. Then I would really like to show you my babies, but they are much too small to be seen by such eyes as yours. I carry them about with me all the time, till they are big enough to take care of themselves. They ride on my back and head, and, in fact, there are so many that they nearly cover me up.

6. It doesn't become me to boast; but if you know of any home more graceful or more elegant than mine, I would like to know which it is. Some of my family live in a sort of tent made of a leaf lined with silk, which makes a pretty house, though rather an airy one.

7. One branch of the family builds a house, or rather a cradle, shaped like a tiny bell, and hung to a leaf or branch, where it rocks with every wind. The cradle is not very large, is snow-white, and is quite long. But after it is finished and filled with eggs, forty or fifty of them, the careful mother closes it up and covers the outside with mud, because you must know there are many insects which will eat every spider baby they see.

8. Other spiders build hanging houses. Some of these are three or four inches long, and are made of white silk; others are made of empty pods fastened together and lined with silk, for wherever a spider lives she must have silk curtains to her house.

9. One of my relatives, who lives in the West Indies — a splendid fellow, with a body an inch and a half long, and bushes of hair on his legs — fastens his house to a plant, and it looks like a silk ball. It is very aristocratic and nice.

10. But I think the most wonderful house is made by the Trapdoor Spider, a native of Australia. She is quite

large, is more than an inch long, and she digs a deep tunnel in the ground, which, of course, she lines with heavy silk hangings. Then at the top she makes a door so wonderful that she takes her name from it.

11. It is made of silk stiffened with some sort of gum. The outside is covered with earth and bits of bark, exactly like the ground around it, so that when the door is shut it cannot be seen. The whole is hung with a hinge like any house door. What do you think of that? Madam C'teniza (for that's her book name) often sits in her door to enjoy the air; but if any one comes near, she slams the door and holds it fast.

12. Some of my family have a strange fancy for living about the water. One of them is called the Raft Spider, because she makes a raft of leaves and sticks, held together with silk. On this she sails around, eating such food as she can find on the water. She can run on the water, too, easily.

13. The most singular one, a builder of a snug house under water, is called the Water Spider. Now you know that spiders, as well as you, must have air to breathe, and one would think they must live on land: but this spider is so determined to live away from her relatives that she builds under water a beautiful house of silk, the shape and size of a thimble, with the open side down, and actually fills it with air herself.

14. I'll tell you how. Having finished the house, she goes to the surface, thrusts one end of her body up into the air, then gives a jerk, and actually carries a tiny bubble of air under the water. It is held partly by the long hairs on the body, and partly by the hind legs. When she gets to the opening of the house, she turns around and lets go the bubble. Of course, it goes to the top of the little thimble, and there it stays.

15. In this wonderful way, bubble by bubble, air enough is carried down to fill the house. And there she lives, bringing her dinner there to eat, and making a nursery in one corner for the babies, who live at home until big enough to build thimble castles for themselves. There are many more curious and wonderful things I could tell you about my family, but I'm afraid you are tired already.

LESSON XXI.

im po lite' ness; *rudeness.*
 fall'ing in with; *meeting.*
 knap' sack; *a leather bag.*
 straw' ber ries; *small fruits.*
 tour' ists; *people who travel for pleasure.*
 whor' tle ber ry; *a small fruit.*
 e' del weiss; *a small white flower found only on high mountains.*
 cent imes'; *the smallest French coins, worth about one-fifth of a cent.*
 su per nat' u ral be' ings; *ghosts.*

haunt; *visit frequently.*
 tim' or ous; *afraid.*
 ban' ish; *drive away.*
 list' less; *inattentive.*
 wa' ter proof; *raincoat.*
 et cet' e ras; *other things.*
 sand' wick es; *slices of bread with meat or cheese between.*
 al' pen stock; *climbing pole.*
 gay' e ty; *merriment.*
 rud' dy; *rosy.*
 al' pen roes li; *a flower.*

SWISS CHILDREN.

A LETTER.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 1, 1909.

MY DEAR BOY, —

You want me to tell you something about the Swiss children that I met in my travels in Switzerland. The boys and girls of Switzerland have made a good impression upon me. In town and country alike, they always meet one with a frank look, and not uncommonly with a bright, sunny smile. Though they are quick to mark the stranger, and to note, perhaps, his strange dress, yet it is rare to observe in them any rudeness, either of speech or

manners. Indeed, I may say that, so far as my own experience goes, I cannot recall a single instance of impoliteness on the part of a Swiss boy or girl. I do not know that, taken as a whole, Swiss children are better than others. They, no doubt, have their faults, as all have; but I must say that I have never found children anywhere better behaved than in this land of mountains and lakes. In the village and on the country roads they rarely meet you without a polite "*Guten Tag*," or "*Bon jour*," and if you should happen to inquire the way to some place, they will not infrequently take considerable trouble to see that you go right. As a rule, they show the greatest trust, and with a little encouragement they will enter into conversation, and prove themselves very agreeable companions if they chance to be traveling your way.

I remember once falling in with a little fellow who was trudging home from school with a small knapsack of books on his back. It was a little late in the afternoon, and though it would be dark before the little fellow could reach home, he showed no fear. Yet his way lay alongside a grim pine forest, full of strange whispers and sounds that would have made a grown person feel queer in the dark. I was not sorry to have the companionship of one who was sure of the way, and during the mile or two we had to go together I found his boyish talk extremely enjoyable, and, to a stranger, not a little instructive. He knew all the live things of the forest, and could tell the names of the flowers that grew by the wayside in the sunny season. One steep slope he pointed out as being especially notable for its wild strawberries, and spoke with a certain pride of the number of tiny basketfuls he and his brothers and sisters had gathered the previous summer, and sold either to passing tourists or in the nearby town.

It is worthy of note that one never sees Swiss children gathering unripe fruit, as is so common elsewhere. In America, not only town children when in the country, but country children, who ought to know better, will pluck green fruit wherever it is to be found, and thereby spoil a possible future pleasure for themselves, to say nothing of others. In this respect, at least, Swiss children are better taught, and though the waysides are often thickly planted with fruit-trees, neither boy nor girl is ever seen to take the fruit in an unripe condition. I shall never forget the cry of horror which burst from a group of boys who were fishing in the Aar, when they saw an Englishman draw down the bough of a plum tree, and pluck a still green fruit. It was as though he had committed some crime. The wild strawberries are never touched until quite ripe. But when the fruit is ripe for gathering, these little men and women will travel miles, and ascend to considerable heights on the mountain side, to gather these dainties, which, in the districts frequented by tourists, sell at a good price. They assist in bringing in the whortleberry harvest in the same way. But before either the wild strawberry or the whortleberry is ripe, these little sons of the mountains will ascend to dizzy heights in the regions of eternal snow to gather the whitish-green blooms of the edelweiss. These they tie up in tiny bundles, and sell to travelers for a few centimes apiece. They will stand by the roadside in the hot sun for hours in the hope of getting a purchaser.

But to return to my little man who knew the natural things of the forest so well. He had heard, too, of the supernatural beings supposed to haunt it — beings, some good, others evil. Of these things he spoke with awe, and when I asked him whether he never was afraid of them in passing the wood at night, he said he sometimes felt

a little timorous; but he added that his mother had taught him, whenever he felt anything of the kind, to repeat the words:

Du lieber Gott, ich bin dein Kind,
Mach mich zu allem Uebel blind,

which in English would read:

Dear God above, I am Thy child,
Make me to every evil blind—

a pretty and wholesome way in which to banish fear.

I shall conclude my letter by presenting to you the picture, so often witnessed in the summer season, of troops of children, led by a teacher, wandering along the mountain paths, enjoying the fresh air, the fragrant woods, and the flower-lit meadows, joyfully gathering knowledge and health at the same time; for when the temperature has reached a point at which the children become listless, school doors have to be thrown open and the scholars dismissed. To do otherwise is regarded as cruelty.

The higher schools follow the same plan, and it is no uncommon thing for the tourist to meet long strings of girls, evidently of the better classes, tripping along the mountain slopes, accompanied by their teachers, and with perhaps a guide to lead. They have bundles on their backs, containing a rug or waterproof and etceteras; they carry tins with sandwiches and the like; and, with alpen-stock in hand, their look is one of businesslike earnest. Nor is it by any means make-believe; for some of these little misses will walk, with little trouble, twelve or fifteen miles a day, and arrive at their homes at night with nothing more the matter with them than that they are very hungry. They do not show quite so much gayety towards evening, perhaps, as earlier in the day; but it is very pleasant to see their fresh looks and their cheeks almost

as ruddy as the "alpenroesli," with which, in true Swiss fashion, they have adorned the heads of their climbing poles. These girl parties make the mountains ring with their voices.

Let this suffice. When I meet you later on, I will tell you more of Swiss children.

Cordially Yours,

UNCLE FRANK.

LESSON XXII.

desk; *writing table*.
 cab' i net; *furniture*.
 baize; *a coarse woolen stuff*.
 var' nish; *a thick glossy liquid*.
 con tempt'; *disregard*.
 sub' se quent ly; *at a later time*.
 as- cer tain'; *find out*.
 ar ran' ging; *placing*.
 man' u scripts; *writings*.
 lunch' eon; *a light meal*.
 coun' te nance; *face*.
 ex press' ive of; *showing*.

pores; *small openings*.
 con fused'; *mixed up*.
 ter' ri fied; *frightened*.
 in sin' u a ting; *working slowly*.
 stain; *discolor, spot*.
 in del' i bly; *in a manner not
 to be blotted out*.
 slov' en ly; *disorderly*.
 ti' di ness; *neatness*.
 tol' er a ble; *passable*.
 ir re triev' a bly; *in a manner
 incapable of repair*.

HISTORY OF A SCHOOL DESK, TOLD BY ITSELF.

1. I was made in Philadelphia, in a cabinet shop, myself and three others being joined together in one frame. When finished, our lids were all covered with beautiful green baize, and the color of the cherry of which we were made was rendered of a dark rich and glossy hue by a handsome coat of varnish, which the carpenter carefully applied.

2. I recollect, when we were coming home, with what contempt I looked down upon a load of common school desks which we passed in the street. Alas! little did I

think to what indignities I should myself subsequently be exposed.

3. I was placed with many other similar desks in a long and very pleasant room, and in a few days afterwards there came in a considerable number of young ladies of various ages, and the school commenced.

4. A pleasant-looking girl was stationed before me. I never could ascertain her name, as it was not written upon the outside of any of her books. I soon found that she was quite pleased with my form and appearance, for she took great pleasure in arranging all her books and papers in great order, and often surveyed me with a look of much satisfaction.

5. Her books were placed carefully in one corner, her slate in another, and her manuscripts in a third; and whenever she had anything for a luncheon at school, she was careful to put it into a paper by itself. She made, however, one mistake; for not many hours after she took possession of me, while busily engaged in writing, she laid her pen, which was full of ink, down upon my face and made an ugly ink spot.

✱ 6. She, however, instantly perceived it, and with a countenance expressive of great anxiety she hastened to bring a wet sponge, and with it she carefully and gently, but thoroughly, removed the spot. I found great assistance from my coat of varnish in this adventure, as this substance prevented the ink from passing through into the pores of the wood.

7. I found that my mistress was much beloved by her fellow pupils; they often came to sit with her and entertain me with their conversation. I observed, too, that when the teacher of this school came to her desk to speak to her, she always looked pleased, and happy, and was not afraid

to open her desk in his presence, if he wished anything from it.

8. This happy life, however, could not long continue. I was one day surprised and grieved to find my mistress taking out her books and carrying them away, and there came instead another girl, who brought a most confused collection of books, maps, manuscripts, rules, boxes, pens, and paper.

9. She hastily crowded some of the largest books into the back part of the desk, pushed the other things this way and that a little, then let my lid fall down with a violence that terrified me, and ran off into the playroom. I thought that she would put me in order when she returned; but no, this was the usual treatment which I received from her.

10. When she wanted anything, she tumbled over her books and papers until she found it. Her luncheon was kept with everything else, and soon the crumbs were strewn all around; and what was worse than all the rest, she inked the beautiful cherry wood of which I was made again and again without any concern.

11. Sometimes she would upset her inkstand, and then never more than half wipe up the ink. In such cases I made as much effort as I could, with the help of my varnish, to prevent the ink from insinuating itself into my pores; but all in vain, it would get through, and I was afraid it would stain, indelibly, my beautiful wood.

12. I think the teacher of this school was very much to blame for not getting some old, inky, wooden desks for those of his pupils who were so very slovenly, and not give them such beautiful pieces of furniture as we were, merely to see them spoiled. The teacher would occasionally say something to his pupils about the importance of tidiness and of keeping the desks neat, and then my mistress would take it into her head to brush up her establishment.

13. She would put her books into some tolerable order, and would get a wet sponge and rub the outside of the desk in a vain attempt to remove the spots. Ink spots, like bad habits, must be removed as soon as they are first formed, otherwise they become indelibly fixed. The repeated rubbings which my mistress thus gave me had no effect but to wear away the varnish and turn me from a glossy bright color to a dirty brown. I soon considered myself irretrievably spoiled.

14. After a time my mistress was changed again, and the one who succeeded her remains to this day. She has spread a large paper on the inside and arranges the books and papers neatly upon it. If she makes a blot, she carefully wipes it off at once. A few afternoons since, two or three ladies came into the schoolroom, and one of them lifted up my lid and said to the others, "See how neatly these scholars keep their desks."

LESSON XXIII.

gey'sers; *hot water fountains.*

com pris'es; *includes.*

ex tinct'; *dead, inactive.*

cones; *bodies tapering from a circular base.*

mound; *a hill.*

cra'ter; *opening, mouth.*

e rup'tions; *outbreaks.*

re cedes'; *moves back.*

mar'gin; *edge, border.*

di am'e ter; *distance across through the center.*

ap'er ture; *opening.*

vis'i ble; *to be seen.*

gur'gling; *bubbling.*

splut'ter ing; *spitting out with noise.*

pro ject'ed; *thrown out.*

can'yons; *deep cuts through rocks.*

gor'ges; *small canyons.*

ver'tic al; *upright.*

junc'tion; *place of meeting.*

pros'pect ing; *searching.*

cat'a racts; *great waterfalls.*

NATURAL WONDERS OF AMERICA.

Within the vast extent of territory belonging to the United States, there are many wonderful natural curiosities which attract visitors from all parts of the world.

A short description of some of the principal attractions is here given, with the hope that many who read this lesson may at some time visit some or all of those which are noticed.

GEYSERS OF THE YELLOWSTONE PARK.

1. The Yellowstone Park is a tract of country fifty-five by sixty-five miles in extent, lying mainly in the north-west corner of the State of Wyoming, but including a narrow belt in southern Montana. It contains nearly thirty-six hundred square miles, and is nearly three times as large as the State of Rhode Island. No equal extent of country on the globe comprises such a union of grand and wonderful scenery.

2. Numerous hot springs, steam jets, and extinct geyser cones exist in the Yellowstone basin. Just beyond the western rim of the basin, lies the grand geyser region of Fire Hole River.

Scattered along both banks of this stream are boiling springs, from two to twelve feet across, all in active operation.

One of the most noted geysers of this district is "Old Faithful." It stands on a mound thirty feet high, the crater rising some six feet higher still.

3. The eruptions take place about once an hour, and continue fifteen or twenty minutes, the column of water shooting upward with terrific force, from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet.

The great mass of water falls directly back into the basin, flowing over the edges and down the sides in large streams. When the action ceases, the water recedes from sight, and nothing is heard but an occasional escape of steam until another eruption occurs. X

4. Just across the river and close to the margin, a small conical mound is observed, about three feet high, and five feet in diameter at the base.

No one would suspect it to be an active geyser. But in 1871, a column of water entirely filling the crater shot from it, which by actual measurement was found to be two hundred and nineteen feet high.

Not more than a hundred yards from the river, there is a large oval aperture eighteen feet wide and twenty-five feet long. The sides are covered with a grayish white deposit which is distinctly visible at a depth of a hundred feet below the surface.

5. This geyser is known as the "Giantess," and a visitor in describing it states that "no water could be discovered on the first approach, but it could be distinctly heard gurgling and boiling at a great distance below. Suddenly it began to rise, spluttering and sending out huge volumes of steam, causing a general scattering of our company.

6. "When within about forty feet of the surface, it became stationary, and we returned to look upon it. All at once it rose with incredible rapidity, the hot water bursting from the opening with terrific force, rising in a column the full size of this immense aperture to the height of sixty feet.

"Through, and out of the top of this mass, five or six lesser jets or round columns of water, varying in size from six to fifteen inches in diameter, were projected to the marvelous height of two hundred and fifty feet."

THE CANYONS OF THE COLORADO RIVER.

7. The length of the Colorado River, from the sources of the Green River, is about two thousand miles.

For five hundred miles of this distance, the river has worn deep cuts or gorges through the soft rock, called canyons.

The rocky sides of these canyons form lofty vertical walls, which, in some places, rise to a height of more than a mile above the surface of the water.

8. The largest and most noted of these vast gorges is the Grand Canyon, which extends a distance of more than two hundred miles. The height of the walls of this canyon varies from four thousand to seven thousand feet.

The river, as it runs through it, is from fifty to three hundred feet wide. So swift is the current that it is almost impossible to float a boat down the stream without having it dashed to pieces against the rocky walls on either side.

9. The first descent through these canyons was made in 1867, from a point on the Grand River, about thirty miles above its junction with the Green River.

Three men were prospecting for gold, and, being attacked by Indians and one of their number killed, the other two decided to attempt the descent of the river rather than retrace their steps through a country where Indians were numerous.

They constructed a raft of a few pieces of driftwood, and, having secured their arms and provisions, commenced their journey down the stream.

10. A few days afterwards, while the raft was descending a cataract, one of the men was drowned and all the provisions were washed overboard.

The third man, hemmed in by the walls of the canyon, continued the journey alone amid great perils from cataracts, rocks, and whirlpools.

At last he succeeded in reaching Callville in safety, after having floated several hundred miles.

LESSON XXIV.

pro per tuu; relations of parts
to each other.

a're a; a surface.

av'e nues; wide walks.

al'a bas ter; a kind of whitish
stone.

dra' per y; hangings.

gran' deur; splendor of appear-
ance.

co los' sal; of huge size.

im pos' ing; impressive.

fea' ture; part.

cray' fish; crab.

ever awed; surrounded by a
wonder.

stunned; shocked.

pree' i pice; a steep overhang-
ing rock.

chasm; a deep opening.

res er va' tion; public land.

re stored; brought back.

loi' ter ing; spending time idly.

in' take; a large pipe.

tur' bine; water wheel.

im' pe tus; force.

vi cin' i ty; neighborhood.

NATURAL WONDERS OF AMERICA.

(Concluded.)

THE MAMMOTH CAVE.

11. In the year 1807, a hunter named Hutchins, while pursuing a bear in Edmonson County, Kentucky, was surprised to see the animal disappear in a small opening in the side of a hill.

Upon examining the spot, Hutchins found that the opening led into a cave. Following up the examination soon after, it was discovered that the cave was immense in its proportions.

12. On account of its great size, it was named Mammoth Cave. It has an area of several hundred square miles, and two hundred and twenty-three known and numbered avenues, with a united length of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles.

The interior of this cave is divided by large columns and walls of stone into chambers of various shapes and sizes. Some of these are large enough to afford standing room for thousands of people.

13. One of the largest of these chambers is called Mammoth Dome. This room is four hundred feet long, one hundred and fifty feet wide, and two hundred and fifty feet in height.

The walls of this grand room are curtained by alabaster drapery in vertical folds and present to the eye a scene of unexampled beauty and grandeur.

A large gateway at one end of this room opens into another room, in which the position of the huge stone pillars reminds one of the ruins of some ancient temple.

14. Six colossal columns, or pillars, eighty feet high and twenty-five feet in diameter, standing in a half circle, are among the imposing attractions of this wonderful room.

Another striking feature of Mammoth Cave is what is called the Dead Sea. This body of water is four hundred feet long, forty feet wide, and very deep.

15. A curious fish is found in this dark lake. It is without eyes, and, in form and color, is different from any fish found outside the cave.

There are found also a blind grasshopper, without wings, and a blind crayfish of a whitish color, both of which are very curious and interesting.

NIAGARA FALLS.

16. Of all the sights to be seen on this continent, there is none that equals the great Falls of Niagara River, situated about twelve miles north of Buffalo, in the State of New York.

On first beholding this most wonderful of all known cataracts, one is overawed by its surpassing grandeur, and stunned by the sound of the falling waters as by a roar of thunder.

17. For a considerable distance above the falls, the Niagara River is about one mile wide, and flows with great swiftness.

Just at the edge of the cataract stands Goat Island, which divides the waters of the river, and makes two distinct cataracts, one on the Canadian side, and one on the American side of the river.

18. The one on the Canadian side, called from its shape the Horseshoe Fall, is eighteen hundred feet wide, and one hundred and fifty-eight feet high. The other, called the American Fall, is six hundred feet wide, and one hundred and sixty-four feet high.

As the immense body of water leaps over this vast precipice, it breaks into a soft spray, which waves like a plume in the wind. At times, when the rays of the sun strike this spray, a rainbow is formed which stretches itself across the deep chasm, and produces a beautiful effect.

19. During the winter, much of the water and spray freezes, and as each moment adds to the frozen mass, some curious and wonderful ice formations are produced.

Sometimes, during a very cold winter, the ice at the foot of the falls forms a complete bridge from one shore to the other.

20. In recent times the State of New York has purchased the shore and islands of the river and established a State Reservation. They are now free from the greed of private gain and restored to their natural beauty. Goat Island, the Sister Islands, and Luna Island are delightful loitering places, and afford beautiful and varied views of the rapids and the falls.

21. A little way below the falls, on the American side, is the outlet of a great tunnel, twenty-nine feet wide by eighteen feet in height. The tunnel has been cut through the solid rock, at a depth of two hundred feet below the

surface, from a point a mile and a quarter above the falls. There an intake diverts into several shafts a very small portion of the river, which produces, through great turbine wheels, the largest ever constructed, fifteen thousand horse power. Thus a wonderful impetus has been given to manufactures in the vicinity, as well as in Buffalo, Lockport, and even more distant points.

LESSON XXV.

| | |
|---|---|
| cuck'oo; <i>a perching bird named after its note.</i> | night' in gale; <i>a bird that sings at night.</i> |
| be times'; <i>in good season.</i> | dit'ty; <i>a song.</i> |
| climes; <i>climates, regions.</i> | lays; <i>soft songs.</i> |
| Mad'am Catch'fly; <i>the swallow.</i> | droll; <i>queer.</i> |
| main; <i>the ocean.</i> | Tom tit'; <i>titmouse, a small perch- ing bird.</i> |
| Geor'gian; <i>relating to Georgia in Asia.</i> | top'pish; <i>affected in manners.</i> |

THE CUCKOO AND THE SWALLOW.

1. One morn a cuckoo thus attacked betimes
A swallow lately come from warmer climes:
"Ah, Madam Catchfly! once again,
I see, by toil unawed,
Your Ladyship has crossed the main!
How fare all friends abroad?
2. "How goes the world? Come, tell the news;
A little news is pleasant:
How do the folks in Turkey use
To speak of birds at present?
3. "What say the Georgian maids so pretty
About young Nightingale's dull ditty?
Do any praise it now? I fancy not."
"Excuse me," said the swallow, "much they praise
His plaintive and melodious lays,
And call them charming, and I know not what."

4. "Charming! That's droll enough. What says
The world, then, of my little friend Tomtit?"
"Some call him foppish in his ways —
But," said the swallow, "much they praise
His plumage and his wit."
"His wit! That's well," the cuckoo cried with glee,
"And what says all the world of me?"
5. "Of you?" exclaimed the wondering bird —
"Of you? In truth, sir, not a word."
"What? never?" said the cuckoo, "never?"
Does no one talk of me? How! — Why!
That's very strange, indeed, for I
Talk of myself forever."

LESSON XXVI.

wedge; *a body which is thick at one end and tapers.*
pro pelled'; *moved forward.*
base' ment; *the lower story of a building.*
com pact'; *combined.*
fu' el; *heating material.*
gangs; *parties.*

VOYAGE ON A BIG OCEAN STEAMER.

1. The Pacific is the largest of the oceans. From north to south it is more than thrice as long as the distance between New York and San Francisco; and between the Western Continent and Asia, as it goes toward the south, it spreads out in the shape of a gigantic fan, forming, as it were, a great liquid wedge between our world and that on the other side of the globe. The edge of the wedge is driven in between the two great bodies of land at Behring Strait, and at this point it is only forty miles wide, a distance so short that on clear days you might sit in your reindeer sledge in Alaska and see the cold hills of

Siberian Russia. The wedge widens rapidly as we go to the south, and if we attempted to cross it from Quito, along the line of the equator, we should have to travel ten thousand miles before we came to the Moluccas, a group of islands on the other side of the Pacific.

2. If we sailed from Lower California along the Tropic of Cancer, we should have eighty-five hundred miles to travel before we reached the Empire of China; and from San Francisco to Yokohama, Japan, a little farther north, the distance is about forty-five hundred miles. This is one of the great highroads of the Pacific, but a still shorter route can be found by going to Vancouver and taking a Canadian vessel, or by sailing on one of the American ships from Puget Sound to Japan; and this will be the road we shall travel.

3. Our vessel is one of the palaces of the ocean. It is propelled by steam, and the distance is now a matter of hours rather than space. It will take us from ten to twelve days to travel from one continent to the other, and we feel almost as safe on the boundless Pacific as we did in our own house at home.

4. Our ship itself is a wonderful object. It is made of steel. It is nearly five hundred feet long, or long enough to stretch the whole length of the average city block; and it is so wide that it would fill a fifty-foot street. It is as high as a six-story house, and it has as many rooms as a hotel. There are parlors and kitchens, sleeping rooms and bathrooms; there is a butcher's shop, a bakery, a carpenter's shop, and it contains all sorts of machinery. The dining room is as large as that of a hotel, and we are furnished with as good food as we have on our tables at home.

5. The whole ship is lighted at night by electricity, and every bedroom has its electric bell. Its hundreds of

rooms run from story to story, from the hurricane deck, which forms its roof, down to the basement just over the keel, where a plate of steel no thicker than your finger is all that keeps out the water. It is in this great steel shell that we travel over more than four thousand miles of water without coming in sight of land.

6. When we go through the workshops of the basement, the engineer shows us the great machines which, by means of steam, noiselessly but steadily force the ship on over one of the longest ocean routes in the world. He tells us that his engines are as strong as ten thousand horses, and supposing a horse to be six feet in length from nose to tail, we find that it would take a compact line of two-horse teams more than five miles long, all pulling at once, to represent the force.

7. An enormous amount of fuel is required to feed this power. The engineer tells us that almost two thousand tons of coal are burned to make the steam for the voyage. It is a large dwelling house that requires ten tons of coal a year. Our steamer, therefore, in a single voyage burns enough coal to supply two hundred such homes with fuel the year round; and a village of one thousand people does not use more coal in twelve months than we shall consume in two weeks.

8. The coal is put into the great furnaces by thirty-two Chinamen, who are divided into gangs of eight. Each gang works for six hours at a stretch, and the shoveling goes on while we sleep; it never stops from the beginning to the end of the voyage.

9. We might float for days and weeks without meeting another steamer, and we tremble when we think of the possibility of breaking down in the watery waste of the great ocean. We feel a little safer when the captain tells us that we are just off the Aleutian Islands; we feel safer

still when we get closer to the Kurile Islands. We steam on to the south, not far from the island of Yesso, and our Chinese servant tells us that Japan is in sight and we shall soon be on Asiatic soil.

LESSON XXVII.

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|------------------------------------|--|
| chrysan'the mum; <i>a flower.</i> | a rith'me tic; <i>science of numbers.</i> |
| ver'dure; <i>greenness.</i> | magazines'; |
| u ni ver'si ty; <i>the highest</i> | jour'nals; } <i>periodical publications.</i> |
| <i>school.</i> | pas'time; <i>enjoyment, amusement.</i> |
| al'pha bet; <i>a b c.</i> | ped'dlers; <i>traveling traders.</i> |
| pri'ma ry; <i>for beginners.</i> | au'thors; <i>writers of books.</i> |
| san'dals; <i>soles with strap</i> | mor'als; <i>teachings of duties.</i> |
| <i>fastenings.</i> | hea'then; <i>unchristian.</i> |

JAPANESE CHILDREN.

1. Travelers in the Island Empire of the East, that is, in Japan, soon become interested in the children. Perhaps the first thing to attract the attention of an American traveler is the behavior of Japanese children toward their parents. They are very respectful, for to have a bad child in Japan is disgraceful, and Japanese children are taught to honor their parents. Japanese children are remarkable also for the earnestness with which they apply themselves to their school-work. Japan has excellent schools, and the children can have an education almost as good as that offered to children in the United States. All children are compelled by law to attend school from their sixth to their tenth year, and there are advanced grades for those who wish to study longer.

2. Thousands of boys are kept at school until they are grown up; hundreds attend the colleges, which are to be found in various Japanese cities; many graduate yearly

at the Imperial University at Tokio. The empress has established a girls' school at the capital, where the daughters of princes and nobles are educated, and where they study English, French, and German.

3. The studies are more difficult than ours. The Japanese have forty-seven letters in their alphabet, and there are so many word signs in addition that an educated man must know thousands of characters. Many of the signs mean whole words or short sentences, and there are curious endings and crooks which have to be learned.

4. Let us visit a primary school, such as we shall find all over the country. It is early in the morning, and the children stand about with their books. As the teacher approaches, the children bow down to show their respect. The teacher does likewise, and then he enters the school-room and takes his seat under the blackboard. He may have a chair, or he may sit on the floor, with a low desk before him. The scholars leave their sandals in order outside. They sit down on the floor mats, and study with their books on their knees. These books begin at the back, and the lines run up and down the page. The letters remind us of the Chinese characters on tea boxes.

5. The teacher makes the characters on the blackboard, and the class copies them on sheets of paper, at the same time singing out their names. They use brushes instead of pens or pencils, and they paint the letters with black India ink. The paper is soft and porous.

6. In learning arithmetic the Japanese children use a box of wooden buttons strung upon wires, six inches wide and one foot long. The buttons represent units, tens, hundreds, thousands, etc. Any sum in arithmetic can be done with these buttons.

7. Japan has large bookstores and great printing establishments. There are now published thirty-five Jap-

anese magazines devoted to law, scores of different papers treating of farming, all kinds of scientific journals, and daily newspapers. Japanese newsboys go about the streets, ringing a bell, which is their way of telling people that they have papers for sale.

8. Yet the lives of Japanese children are not made up merely of school and hard work, for they have as much fun and pastime as any boys and girls in the world. They have all sorts of playthings, and there are toy stores in all the cities. Peddlers wander about selling nothing but toys. Some men carry little ovens or stoves, with real fire in them, about the streets, and sell sweet dough. A boy or girl can rent a stove for an hour for less than five cents, and the stove man will furnish the dough, and look on while the child makes up cakes and bakes them.

9. The dressing of dolls is a great pastime for girls. All the people celebrate the Feast of Dolls. This lasts three days of every year. All the dolls which have been kept in the family for generations are brought forth, set upon shelves covered with red cloth, and admired. Some of them represent the emperor and the empress, and are treated with great honor, receiving the best food of the play feasts to which the dolls are treated three times a day. After the three days are ended, these dolls are put away; but the Japanese girl has other dolls with which she plays the year round.

10. The boys, too, have their day. We see great balloonlike paper fishes floating in the air from sticks fastened to the roof of each house in which a boy baby has been born during the year, and also from other houses where the parents are glad they have boys.

11. Japanese children have instructive games, as well as purely playgames. They have block maps, and by put-

ting the single blocks together they learn the shape of Japan and of the world. They have a game similar to our "Game of Authors," called "One Hundred Verses of One Hundred Poets," which teaches them the names and best sayings of the great Japanese scholars. Many of the games they play teach them lessons in morals.

12. Japan is still, for the most part, a heathen country, and therefore the bulk of Japanese children are ignorant of the blessed teachings of Christ, the Savior of our soul. Let us hope that the time may come when every Japanese child will have an opportunity of learning to know Him who has said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God."

LESSON XXVIII.

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| her' on; <i>a wading bird.</i> | con tract' ed; <i>drawn together.</i> |
| pre' cincts; <i>limits.</i> | con' tem plate; <i>study.</i> |
| im pen' e tra ble; <i>unenterable.</i> | af fairs'; <i>that which is done.</i> |
| mo rass' es; <i>marshes.</i> | gut' tur al; <i>formed in the throat.</i> |
| slim' y; <i>overspread with a</i> | jet; <i>shake.</i> |
| <i>sticky substance.</i> | part' ners; <i>mates.</i> |
| sol' i ta ry; <i>lonely.</i> | swamp' y; <i>marshy.</i> |
| stag' nant; <i>impure from want</i> | con sec' u tive; <i>following one</i> |
| <i>of motion.</i> | <i>another.</i> |
| reed' y; <i>covered with reeds or</i> | as sid' u ous; <i>unwearied.</i> |
| <i>large grasses.</i> | crest' ed; <i>having lengthened</i> |
| a quat' ic; <i>inhabiting water.</i> | <i>feathers on the head.</i> |
| min' nows; <i>certain very small</i> | a dult'; <i>grown to full size.</i> |
| <i>fishes.</i> | va' ri e ga ted; <i>changed.</i> |

THE GREEN HERON.

1. Within the precincts of grassy pools and almost impenetrable morasses, where dangerous odors exhale, and myriads of slimy creatures drag their slow lengths

along, the green heron delights to dwell. Here he pursues his craft in the society of his friends and near relatives.

2. Early in April the birds reach the Middle Atlantic States, from their southern marshy homes, and soon afterwards are found in New England, and other portions to the westward.

3. For nearly a month after his arrival the heron is a solitary feeder, and seems to care for naught but satisfying his appetite. Knee-deep in some small stagnant stream or pool, or in the midst of a reedy marsh, he may be seen awaiting his prey. Worms, aquatic caterpillars, and small crabs are eagerly hunted, and captured with wonderful skill.

4. When on the lookout for minnows and other small fish, he takes up his position by the side of the ditch, and with his long-reaching neck contracted over his breast, prepared for duty, he waits, in statue-like repose, the appearance of his prey. The keen, flashing eye bespeaks the anxiety within. He has not long to watch. Soon a luckless little fellow approaches the bank cautiously, when, with one stroke of the bill, as unerring and sudden as that of the blow of a rattlesnake, he is speared, and ere he has time to contemplate the condition of affairs, he is swallowed entire.

5. Of all our herons, this species displays the least shyness. When disturbed, it mounts upward with a hollow, guttural cry: but soon alights, looks about, and, if danger is not threatening, settles back into its usual inactive state. While either walking or standing, on such occasions, it is noticed to jet the tail, a habit which it indulges in at somewhat regular periods. ✓

6. In the declining day of April or dawn of May the male and female birds no longer seek to dwell apart. They

now select their partners, and enter upon the duties of housekeeping. Having mated, the birds start off in search of a swampy woods, where, among the branches of some tall tree, they place their rude home. Some live apart, but the rule is to dwell in companies. It is common to find them and the night herons living together on friendly terms.

7. The nest is built entirely of sticks, with finer ones on the inside. The work of building it is performed by both birds, and occupies but a short time, usually not more than two days.

8. The eggs of these birds are from three to four in number, and of a pale light blue color. They are deposited at the rate of one a day, chiefly on consecutive days. Incubation commences shortly after the eggs are laid, and is the task mainly of the female, who, for nearly eighteen days, is a very assiduous sitter. While she is thus occupied, the male is a faithful guardian and protector. He brings to her his choicest captures, and warns her of coming danger.

9. The young birds are carefully attended and fed by the parents, and do not leave the nest until they are able to fly, which is the case when they are from four to five weeks old. Their food consists at first of worms, caterpillars of dragon flies, and aquatic beetles. But as they increase in age, freshwater crabs, frogs, grasshoppers, etc., are brought to them in large numbers. They do not mature until the next season. At first they have the head less crested than the adults. The back is without the characteristic long plumes, but has the same glossy greenish color. The neck is simply reddish brown, while the entire under parts have the white somewhat variegated with dark brown.

LESSON XXIX.

pro' file; *outline, side view.*

prob' a bly; *likely.*

pro fess' or; *teacher of a
higher school.*

del' uged; *overflowed.*

prom' on to ry; *high point of
land.*

di vin' i ty; *god.*

tra di' tion al; *long supposed.*

trans fig' ured; *changed in his
personal appearance.*

sub lime'; *grand, majestic.*

prom' i nent; *highest, lofty.*

trans ac' tions; *deeds.*

im mor' tal; *forever memorable.*

re ferred'; *pointed to.*

de riv ing; *receiving.*

ol' ive; *a fruit.*

MOUNTAINS OF THE BIBLE.

1. The voyage along the coast of Palestine gives a fine profile of the country, and it is a constant surprise to visitors to find the land so hilly. Long before reaching the harbor the lofty peaks of Mount Lebanon may be seen, lifting their snow-capped heads ten thousand feet above the level of the sea. The snow upon the summits never melts, except in the hottest months of summer, while some remains all the year round in places which the sun's rays cannot reach. From base to summit Mount Lebanon carries the climate of the various zones. The Arabians say of this mountain, that "winter rests on its head, spring plays upon its shoulders, while summer slumbers at its feet."

2. Mount Ararat, on which the ark rested, rises to the height of 17,750 feet. It was ascended, after great toil, by Professor Parrott, in 1829, probably then trodden by the foot of man for the first time since Noah stepped upon it from the ark to survey the desolations of a deluged world.

3. Mount Carmel, the bold promontory on the Mediterranean coast forming the Bay of Acre, is the termina-

tion of a range which is six miles long, and the highest peak of which is 1860 feet. Its summit was the scene of a trial between Elijah and the prophets of a false divinity as to whether Jehovah or Baal was the true God.

4. Mounts Ebal and Gerizim, in Samaria, rise about 800 feet above the level of the plain, having a valley less than one thousand feet in width between them. Here was performed the grand ceremony of reciting alternately the blessings and curses of the Law by the priests, while the people in the valley between responded with a thundering "Amen."

5. Mount Hor, rising 4800 feet, was the scene of Aaron's death.

6. Mount Tabor, a beautiful mountain, standing alone in the border of the great plain, south of Nazareth, was the traditional spot where the Savior was transfigured before His disciples, but later investigations give the honor of that sublime event to Mount Hermon, the prominent, grand snowy peak of Lebanon.

7. Mount Sinai, a wild, desolate region of peaks and precipices, ravines, and water courses, was a fitting place for the startling transactions there, where "the Lord descended in fire," and gave His Law to Moses and to man.

8. Mount Moriah is made immortal as the spot where Abraham offered Isaac in faith, afterward one of the hills on which Jerusalem was built, the site of Solomon's Temple, and probably Calvary, where a Greater than Isaac was offered up and not released, but died, cut off for sins, sins not His own.

9. Mount Zion, many times referred to in the Scriptures as the "holy hill," beautifully situated, was another of the four hills upon which Jerusalem was built.

10. The Mount of Olives, deriving its name from the number and beauty of its olive trees, sacred as the frequent

resort of our Savior for meditation and prayer, is to-day the burial place of the Jews in Palestine.

11. The graceful Tabor and the lofty Hermon are selected by the psalmist as the representatives of all the mountains of the Bible (Psalm 89, 12). The reader and lover of the Bible should become familiar with the location and history of every one of these mountains, for they speak important truths through the silence of the ages.

LESSON XXX.

sod; *earth on the surface filled
with roots of grass.*

Judg' ment Day; *the last day.*

lil' ies; *flowers.*

splen' dor; *brilliancy.*

im par' tial ly; *justly.*

drip; *a falling in drops.*

up braid' ing; *accusing.*

deed; *act.*

sev' er; *part.*

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

1. By the flow of the inland river,
 Whence the fleets of iron have fled,
 Where the blades of the grave grass quiver,
 Asleep are the ranks of the dead;—
 Under the sod and the dew,
 Waiting the Judgment Day;
 Under the one, the Blue;
 Under the other, the Gray.
2. From the silence of sorrowful hours,
 The desolate mourners go,
 Lovingly laden with flowers,
 Alike for the friend and the foe;—
 Under the sod and the dew,
 Waiting the Judgment Day;
 Under the roses, the Blue;
 Under the lilies, the Gray.

3. So, with an equal splendor,
The morning sun rays fall,
With a touch, impartially tender,
On the blossoms blooming for all;—
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the Judgment Day;
Brodered with gold, the Blue;
Mellowed with gold, the Gray.
4. So, when the summer calleth,
On forest and field of grain,
With an equal murmur falleth
The cooling drip of the rain;—
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the Judgment Day;
Wet with the rain, the Blue;
Wet with the rain, the Gray.
5. Sadly, but not with upbraiding,
The generous deed was done;
In the storm of the years that are fading,
No braver battle was won;—
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the Judgment Day;
Under the blossoms, the Blue;
Under the garlands, the Gray.
6. No more shall the war cry sever,
Or the winding rivers be red;
They banish our anger forever,
When they laurel the graves of our dead;—
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the Judgment Day;
Love and tears, for the Blue;
Tears and love, for the Gray.

LESSON XXXI.

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|---|---|
| su per in tend'ent; <i>overseer.</i> | God'dess of Lib'er ty; <i>a repre-</i> |
| vault; <i>a large safe.</i> | <i>sentation of liberty.</i> |
| bul' lion; <i>gold and silver bars.</i> | grad' u a ted; <i>tapered.</i> |
| in' gots; <i>metal wedges.</i> | ae' id; <i>a sharp, biting substance.</i> |
| im' a ges; <i>pictures.</i> | dies; <i>hard metal stampers.</i> |

A VISIT TO THE MINT.

1. There are several mints in the United States, but the Philadelphia mint is the oldest. It was founded during the presidency of George Washington, and it coins millions of dollars' worth of gold and silver every year. It is situated in the heart of Philadelphia, not far from the city hall. There are guards at the door, and visitors are carefully watched as they are taken from room to room and shown the processes of coining money.

2. During our tour the superintendent of the mint goes with us. He takes us down into the vaults and shows us where the gold and silver metal and coin are stored away. In one vault we see millions of silver dollars tied up in bags, and stacked up against the wall like so much corn. In a smaller vault we are shown piles of gold bricks. They are laid up in regular order in different parts of the vault. They are, as a rule, about the size of a cake of kitchen soap, and they do not look very heavy.

3. The superintendent asks us to lift one of them, and we find our backs almost broken by the effort to raise it. Each brick weighs forty pounds, or as much as a six-year-old boy. In other vaults we are shown quantities of silver bullion, the bricks of which are larger and heavier than those of the gold vaults, and we learn that from these gold and silver bricks our money is made.

4. In going through the mint we are taken into a room where they are melting the gold, and the superintendent

shows us how copper and other metals are put with it into the melting pot, in order that the money may be harder and wear better. The gold we saw in the bricks was so soft that we could scratch it with our finger nails. It was pure gold, and the superintendent tells us that coins made of pure gold would soon wear away.

5. The gold bricks, having been melted, are cast into ingots. Ingots are long gold wedges. They are about as wide as a twenty-dollar gold piece, and are a little more than a foot long and two inches thick. It is from them that the gold coins are made. V

6. As we go on into the silver-melting room, we see that the silver for the silver dollars is also cast into strips of the same kind. We see a man wheeling a box of these silver ingots out of the room, and follow him along the hall to see the ingots made into dollars. We still have the idea that our coins are made by casting, the gold and silver being melted and turned into molds just as in the making of bullets, save that, when the molds are opened, out drop gold dollars and silver dollars instead of balls of lead.

7. We soon find, however, that our coins are not made in that way. They are stamped out of cold metal, and machines with an enormous pressure put upon their faces the beautiful images of the Goddess of Liberty and the American Eagle. The silver ingots are first rolled between cylinders of steel so graduated that the ingots grow thinner and thinner as they are pulled through them, until they are at last just a little wider and about as thick as a silver dollar. They have been so stretched out by the process that they are like long bands of hoop iron. These bands or strips are now run under a vertical steel punch which cuts out of them round pieces of silver of just the size of a dollar. These are the blanks of which the dollars are to be made.

8. It is very important that each coin should have the right amount of silver in it, so each blank is weighed before it is stamped. After weighing it is taken down into the basement of the mint, and, with thousands of other blanks, is shoveled into a vat of acid, which soon eats the dirt off it. It is then dried and taken upstairs to be coined.

9. The coining is done by what is known as the coining machine. The silver blanks are fed through a long tube into a machine which drops them between two dies. The upper die bears the picture of the Goddess of Liberty, and the lower that of the American Eagle and the lettering which you find on the silver dollar. As the coin lies there, the two dies come together, exerting an enormous pressure, and stamping the beautiful impressions which you see on our silver coins.

Gold coins are made in the same way, and pennies are manufactured by the thousands in much the same manner.

LESSON XXXII.

re pub'lic; *government by the people.*

um brel'la; *a protection against sun or rain.*

squeezed; *pressed.*

am phi the'a ter; *any building having seats rising behind and above one another.*

ter'ra ces; *platforms of earth.*

en'ter prise; *an undertaking.*

rungs; *short, thick pieces of iron.*

sec'tion; *part, division.*

cav'al ry; *troops on horseback.*

pomp; *show.*

sen'a tors; *members of a senate.*

dep'u ties; *assistants.*

arch bish'op; *a chief bishop.*

sys'tem; *arrangement.*

na'vy; *officers and men of the war vessels.*

tel'e grams; *messages by wire.*

tel'e phone; *an instrument for reproducing speech at a distance.*

es tates'; *tracts of land.*

prof'it a ble; *yielding a gain.*

ni'trate; *a mineral salt.*

gua'no (gwä'no); *seafowl dung; a manure.*

THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

1. Chile is the narrowest of all countries in proportion to its length. It stretches only from the ocean to the top of the Andes, and its width is nowhere greater than 150 miles. In some places, indeed, its width is only 85 miles; but it is so long that, if laid from east to west upon the United States, with one end at New York, it would stretch out far beyond Great Salt Lake.

2. A land of this kind must have many climates. It is quite hot in the northern part; but the winter air at Valparaiso is pleasantly cool, and near the Strait of Magellan the ground is often covered with snow. The same difference exists in regard to rain. In the northern desert one never needs an umbrella, but at Valparaiso it rains now and then throughout the year. It rains more as you go farther south, and in some places so much water falls that the people jokingly say it rains thirteen months every year.

3. But what is the cause of the change? Why is northern Chile so dry and the greater part of southern Chile wet? It is due to the winds. The northern desert exists because the winds which come from the east have had the water squeezed out of them by the cold air of the mountains before they reach the west slope.

The winds which roll over southern Chile come from a different direction. They are blown toward the southeast. As they cross the warm waters of the Pacific, they drink themselves full of moisture, and when they reach the cold part of Chile, the difference in the temperature makes the moisture drop down.

4. Valparaiso, a city about the size of Indianapolis, is the best business point upon the whole coast, owing its growth to its harbor, which is large enough to float all the ships of the world. The city rises in the shape of an

amphitheater, or like the grand stand of a ball ground. The streets rise in terraces, one above the other, so that the buildings at the top seem to hang out above and threaten to fall down upon those below. ✕

5. There are cable cars climbing up and down the steep hills, for the only level land in the city is a narrow stretch along the shore.

Upon this level place is the business part of Valparaiso. The hills were dug down and the water kept back by walls of stone and iron rails, in order that the tide might not eat out the land.

6. As we walk over streets as well paved as our streets at home, it is hard for us to believe we are in a South American city. The buildings are large and much like those of our cities. The stores have plate glass windows. We see German and English names over some of them, and we learn that Valparaiso has many Europeans who have come here to engage in trade.

7. The Chileans we see on the streets are dressed just as we are. There are electric lights. We hear the boys cry the newspapers, and as we notice the signs of enterprise all about us, we believe what has been told us, that the Chileans are among the most enterprising people of the South American continent.

The country contains about three million inhabitants, descendants of the Spaniards and of the mixed race of Spaniards and Indians.

8. What a queer street car that is going by us! It has seats on top as well as inside. The woman on the rear platform is the conductor. She is taking up the fares and making change from the money in her white apron pocket. There are women street car conductors in all of the chief cities of Chile. The custom was introduced when Chile was at war with Peru and all men were needed for soldiers.

9. There are railroads crossing the country from the Pacific to the top of the Andes, and there is also a transandine railroad, which goes over the Andes from Valparaiso to Buenos Ayres and joins the Pacific and Atlantic oceans together.

The highest part of the transandine railroad, yet to be built, will include many tunnels. The cars will be taken up the steepest part of the mountain by tracks like those which go up Pike's Peak and Mount Washington. The track will have three rails. In addition to the two which you usually see on a railroad, there will be a third narrow rail with many rungs in it, like a ladder. Upon this a cog wheel attached to the car will move, and the little engine made for the purpose will be behind the train instead of in front of it. The cars will be pushed, not pulled, up the mountains. Argentina and Chile have promised to complete the road by June, 1910, and then passengers will be carried clear across the continent in twenty-nine hours.

10. Santiago is the capital of Chile. It is almost as large as our national capital, and in many ways like it. A wide avenue cuts the city almost in halves. That is the Alameda, the chief street of this South American capital. It is twice as wide as Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington. There are rows of tall poplar trees lining it from one end to the other, and under them are the statues of many Chilean heroes.

11. What fine stores there are in the business section! They are as good as our stores at home. The show windows have all sorts of beautiful goods. The Moneda, or the mint, is a great building which contains also the home of the president and most of the offices of the Chilean government. At the door there are soldiers with drawn swords. The president of Chile has a military guard of two hundred cavalry which goes with his carriage on all state occasions.

12. The Chileans are fond of pomp and display. We meet policemen with swords at their sides on every street corner, and soldiers are drilling in every city and town.

Chile is a republic after the South American fashion, in which the chief families control the elections and hold most of the offices. In that building the houses of Congress meet, and those men who are going in are senators and deputies, who sit there and make laws just as in our Congress at home. That big building over there is the cathedral, and the great structure next door is the palace where the archbishop lives. The Roman Catholic religion is the chief religion of Chile, and the church has a great deal of property.

13. Chile has now a good public school system. The schools are much like our schools at home, save that the girls and boys are kept in different buildings, and that the children of the lower grades all study out aloud. Santiago has a national university with a thousand students, and there are also schools for the army and navy. Indeed, we are surprised at the intelligence of the Chileans. They have been called the Yankees of South America, because they are so bright and enterprising and in other ways like us. Many people of the better classes speak French and English, some having been educated in Europe. In all the cities there are daily newspapers.

14. At the post office millions of letters and newspapers go through the mails every year. There are telegraph lines to all parts of the country, and the prices for telegrams are much lower than those we pay at home. There are electric lights and electric railroads in the principal Chilean cities. Telephones are to be found in all the large towns, and you can talk from Santiago to your friends in Valparaiso over the telephone, although there is a distance of six hours by rail between the two cities.

15. More than half of the people of Chile are engaged in farming, but only a few families own land. The land is divided into vast estates, upon which the wealthier farmers live like lords. Most of the farms are in the great central valley, between the main range of the Andes and the mountains which border the coast. Farming is profitable in Chile. The country produces large wheat crops, millions of gallons of wine, and the best horses and cattle on the west coast of South America.

16. Chile also possesses great mineral wealth. It has rich mines of silver and copper; in the south are extensive coal fields, and from the northern desert nitrate of soda and guano are exported to Europe and the United States.

LESSON XXXIII.

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| coun'try seat; <i>a country home.</i> | hos pi tal'i ty; <i>kindness to guests.</i> |
| an tique'; <i>old, ancient.</i> | af' flu ence; <i>abundance.</i> |
| por'ti co; <i>a porch.</i> | mi'ser; <i>a stingy person.</i> |
| beck' ons; <i>calls by signals.</i> | bride; <i>a woman engaged to be married.</i> |
| mass' ive; <i>heavy.</i> | shroud; <i>a dress for the dead.</i> |
| monk; <i>a religious hermit.</i> | hor'o loge; <i>timepiece or clock.</i> |
| mirth; <i>pleasure, joy.</i> | e ter' ni ty; <i>everlasting endurance.</i> |
| vi cis'si tude; <i>regular change.</i> | |
| man' sion; <i>a large handsome dwelling.</i> | |

THE OLD CLOCK.

1. Somewhat back from the village street
 Stands the old-fashioned country seat,
 Across its antique portico
 Tall poplar trees their shadows throw;
 And from its station in the hall
 An ancient timepiece says to all:
 "Forever, never! Never, forever!"

2. Halfway up the stairs it stands,
And points and beckons with its hands
From its case of massive oak,
Like a monk, who, under his cloak,
Crosses himself, and sighs, alas!
With sorrowful voice to all who pass:
"Forever, never! Never, forever!"
3. Through days of sorrow and of mirth,
Through days of death and days of birth,
Through every swift vicissitude
Of changeful time unchanged it has stood,
And as if, like God, it all things saw,
It calmly repeats those words of awe:
"Forever, never! Never, forever!"
4. In that mansion used to be
Free-hearted Hospitality;
His great fires up the chimney roared;
The stranger feasted at his board;
But, like the skeleton at the feast,
That warning timepiece never ceased:
"Forever, never! Never, forever!"
5. There groups of merry children played;
There youths and maidens dreaming strayed.
O precious hours! O golden prime,
And affluence of love and time!
Even as a miser counts his gold,
Those hours the ancient timepiece told:
"Forever, never! Never, forever!"
6. From that chamber, clothed in white,
The bride came forth on her wedding night.
There, in that silent room below,
The dead lay in his shroud of snow;
And in the hush that followed the prayer
Was heard the old clock on the stair:
"Forever, never! Never, forever!"

7. All are scattered now and fled,
 Some are married, some are dead;
 And when I ask, with throbs of pain,
 "Ah! when shall they all meet again?"
 As in the days long since gone by,
 The ancient timepiece makes reply:
 "Forever, never! Never, forever!"
8. Never here, forever there,
 Where all parting, pain, and care,
 And death, and time shall disappear!
 Forever there, but never here!
 The horologe of eternity
 Sayeth this incessantly:
 "Forever, never! Never, forever!"

LESSON XXXIV.

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| sa lute'; <i>greet.</i> | com pre hen' sive; <i>including</i> |
| pen' sive; <i>lingering in thoughts.</i> | <i>much.</i> |
| pro nounce'; <i>speak, utter.</i> | ab stain'; <i>withhold, forbear.</i> |
| ar' gu ment; <i>disputation.</i> | de ride'; <i>mock, laugh at.</i> |
| dis course'; <i>conversation.</i> | qual' i ty; <i>station, rank.</i> |
| | straits; <i>narrow.</i> |

RULES OF BEHAVIOR.

1. Be not forward, but friendly and courteous, the first to salute, hear, and answer; and be not pensive when it is time to converse.
2. When your superiors talk to anybody, hearken not, neither speak, nor laugh.
3. Think before you speak; pronounce not imperfectly, nor bring out your words too hastily, but orderly and distinctly.
4. Strive not with your superiors in argument, but always submit your judgment to others with modesty.

5. In dispute, be not so desirous to overcome, as to give liberty to each one to deliver his opinion.

6. Let your discourse with men of business be short and comprehensive.

7. When another speaks, be attentive yourself, and disturb not the audience. If any one hesitate in his words, help him not, nor prompt him, without being desired; interrupt him not, nor answer him, till his speech is ended.

8. Treat with men at fit times about business, and whisper not in the company of others.

9. Associate yourself with men of good quality, if you esteem your own reputation; for it is better to be alone than in bad company.

10. Mock not nor jest at anything of importance; break no jests that are sharp-biting; and if you deliver anything witty and pleasant, abstain from laughing thereat yourself.

11. Deride no man's misfortune, though there seem to be some cause.

12. When you meet with one of greater quality than yourself, stop and retire, especially if it be at a door or any strait place, to give way to him to pass.

13. Be not curious to know the affairs of others, neither approach those that speak in private.

14. Read no letters, books, or papers in company; but when there is a necessity for doing it, you must ask leave. Come not near the books or writings of any one so as to read them, unless desired, nor give your opinion of them unasked; also, look not nigh when another is writing a letter.

15. Make no show of taking great delight in your victuals; feed not with greediness; lean not on the table; neither find fault with what you eat. ✕

LESSON XXXV.

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| se'ries; <i>number.</i> | doc' u ment; <i>official writing.</i> |
| re mon'stra ting against; | ep' och; <i>space of time.</i> |
| <i>reproving.</i> | an ni ver'sa ry; <i>yearly.</i> |
| vi o la' tion; <i>non-observance.</i> | com mem'o ra ted; <i>called to</i> |
| char' ter; <i>a written agreement.</i> | <i>memory.</i> |
| prov' ince; <i>colony.</i> | il lu mi na' tions; <i>festive decora-</i> |
| del' e gates; <i>representatives.</i> | <i>tions with lights.</i> |
| as sem' bled; <i>met.</i> | res o lu' tion; <i>decision.</i> |
| | pitch; <i>highest degree, rate.</i> |

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

1. When the memorable Stamp Act was issued, a series of resolutions were drawn up remonstrating against the Act. More than forty towns in Massachusetts adopted the resolutions, declaring the Act a violation of both the English Constitution and the charter of the province. This was the first denial of the unlimited right of Parliament over the American colonies.

2. Two regiments of soldiers were sent over from England to Boston to suppress the spirit of independence. In spite of the opposition of the colonists several ships loaded with tea arrived at Boston in 1773. The patriots resolved that the tea should not be landed, and arrangements were made to prevent it. A party of men disguised as Indians boarded the vessels, broke the tea chests, and emptied the contents into the water. Such were the proceedings of the Boston Tea Party.

3. Great Britain had determined on her system. Her power was irresistible and destructive. Yet the American colonists firmly insisted upon their rights. Taxation without representation they would not submit to. Delegates from the thirteen colonies assembled in Philadelphia in September, 1774. They formed the Continental Congress, and their unalterable determination was to sink or swim, live or die, with their country. Among the fifty-five

members composing this Congress were John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Henry Lee, and Benjamin Franklin.

4. On the 17th of June, 1775, the battle of Bunker Hill was fought, which was looked upon as the day on which the fate of America depended. The country around Boston was aroused to the very highest pitch of excitement. Heroic men came rushing in from the adjoining towns with rifles, swords, shotguns, pitchforks, and other weapons, and soon fourteen thousand men surrounded Boston, then held by about eight thousand regular troops from Great Britain.

Washington, being appointed commander-in-chief, hastened to Massachusetts to take charge of affairs.

5. Presently, Congress in Philadelphia declared that in view of the demands of England it was necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under said crown should be totally suppressed. On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia rose in Congress to move, "That these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states." Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, Livingston, and Sherman were appointed to draw up a Declaration of Independence. Lee's resolution was passed on July 2, and the report of the committee was adopted on July 4.

6. In a letter written to his wife the day after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams expresses himself thus: "The 4th of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomps, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward forever."

LESSON XXXVI.

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| ear' ache; <i>pain in the ear.</i> | gas' tric; <i>belonging to the stomach.</i> |
| in ter' nal; <i>inner.</i> | se cret' ed; <i>separated.</i> |
| el' e ments; <i>simplest parts.</i> | chyme (kime); <i>food changed to a soft slimy mass.</i> |
| in ci' sors; <i>cutting teeth.</i> | chyle (kile); <i>chyme changed to a milky substance.</i> |
| cus' pids; <i>pointed teeth.</i> | pan cre at' ic; <i>secreted by the pancreas.</i> |
| mo' lars; <i>grinding teeth.</i> | bile; <i>secretion of the liver.</i> |
| en am' el; <i>hard, smooth outside.</i> | liv' er; <i>the largest gland in the body.</i> |
| den' tine; <i>bony part of the teeth lying under the enamel.</i> | ribs; <i>the long bones inclosing the chest.</i> |
| sa li' va; <i>the moisture of the mouth.</i> | ab sorb' ents; <i>vessels which suck up.</i> |
| glands; <i>organs which separate some fluid from the blood.</i> | in' ter vals; <i>spaces of time.</i> |
| e soph' a gus; <i>the tube leading from the mouth to the stomach.</i> | |
| in tes' tines; <i>bowels.</i> | |

THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS OF THE HUMAN BODY.

1. The human body is made up of parts. Each of these parts has a name and one or more uses. We know the most common of these names and uses; but, unless we have studied our body with care, there are many parts, and many important and interesting things about them, that we do not know.

2. When we burn our finger, we can tell the cause of the pain; and we shall be careful to avoid it in the future. But when we have earache, or headache, or any other ache, we cannot always tell the cause. Most of the internal organs of our body are soft and delicate, and are easily injured. By knowing what care they need, we may so change our course of conduct as to avoid many aches and diseases.

3. It is necessary, therefore, that we should know a great deal about the parts of the body. We should know not only their names and uses, but also what will make

them stronger or weaker. Then we shall know how to preserve our health, and thus be able to keep ourselves in the best condition to do our work in the world.

4. Every motion that we make destroys some of the minute cells of which the various parts of the body are composed. If this waste goes on without repair, the parts soon wear out, and the body dies.

5. The materials for the repair come from the blood. Hence we must have a way of making blood. For this purpose we have a trunk, and this is large, so that it may contain everything necessary for the process. The process of repair is called nurture, and the elements of nurture are found in food.

6. Before the food can nurture the body, it must undergo many changes. It must be broken up; some parts of it must be dissolved, while others must be separated from such as are worthless.

1. The first step toward reducing food to a condition in which it can nourish the body is chewing. The organs directly used in chewing are the teeth, the tongue, and the cheeks.

8. In our mouths we find four different kinds of teeth. The four cutting teeth on each jaw in front are called incisors; the four pointed teeth, one on each side of each jaw, next back of the incisors, are called cuspids; the eight teeth next to the cuspids are the bicuspid; and the twelve back teeth, six on each jaw, are the molars.

9. The parts of the teeth that lie inside the bones of the jaw are the roots, and the part of each tooth that appears outside the gums is the crown. The crown has a hard, smooth outside. This is called the enamel. Under the enamel is a softer kind of bone called dentine.

10. When the enamel is broken, the tooth decays, causing severe pain and an unpleasant breath. The enamel

of the teeth may be cracked by abruptly changing from cold to hot foods, as from ice cream to hot tea. Biting hard substances of any kind has the same effect. When food gets lodged between the teeth and is permitted to remain there, a kind of acid is formed which destroys the enamel and causes the whole tooth to decay. To prevent this trouble, the teeth should be cleaned after each meal with water and a toothbrush.

11. After the food has been sufficiently chewed, it is to be swallowed. Before swallowing, saliva is mixed with it, moistening it, so that it will go down easily. The saliva is furnished by the salivary glands near the mouth, and is obtained from the blood. The salivary glands do not pour out saliva all the time, but are excited to action by the movement of the jaws. In chewing, this flow suffices to moisten the food, and in talking it is usually sufficient to keep the mouth moist.

12. If we keep our jaws in motion when we are not eating, a useless flow of saliva is produced, which is waste of material and weakening to the body. Chewing gum and all like habits are therefore hurtful.

13. When the food is sufficiently chewed and moistened, it is pressed backward by the tongue and passes through a tube from the mouth to the stomach. This tube is called the esophagus.

14. The process of eating is now done, and the food must be changed so that it readily enters the blood. Converting the food into blood is called digestion, and takes place chiefly in the stomach and intestines.

✓ 15. The stomach is a sack or bag in the lower cavity of the body, and holds from one to two quarts. It is made up of three coats. The outer coat is strong and smooth. The middle coat is made up of muscles. As soon as the

food enters the stomach, these muscles contract and expand, giving motion to the stomach, and churning its contents. The inner coat secretes from the blood a fluid known as the gastric juice. The churning process thoroughly mixes the contents of the stomach.

16. The gastric juice dissolves a small portion of the food and makes it fit to enter the blood. But by far the greater part is converted into a slimy, fluid mass called chyme, and passes from the stomach into the intestines.

17. The intestines are tubes lying in a coil, through which the food passes after leaving the stomach. On its passage through this canal the chyme receives three fluids known as intestinal juices, pancreatic juice, and bile, and these still further prepare the food for the nurture of the body.

18. The pancreatic juice is secreted from the blood by the pancreas, an organ lying back of the stomach, irregular in shape and about six inches long.

19. The liver is a large organ lying on the right side under the lower ribs. It secretes bile from the blood, and pours it into the intestines to be mixed with the chyme.

20. By the action of the different juices the chyme is converted into a milky substance called chyle, which continues its way through the intestines. In its passage, the portions fit to make blood are taken up by the absorbents, and are carried to the veins.

21. Like other parts of the body, the digestive organs need rest. If kept constantly in action, they become weary and unable to perform their proper work. For this reason food should be taken at regular times, with intervals between sufficient to give the digestive organs a chance to rest.

LESSON XXXVII.

reign; *rule*.

con demned'; *sentenced to die*.

ex' qui site; *beautiful*.

per di' tion; *eternal death*.

nup' tials; *wedding*.

a stray'; *out of the right way*.

van' i ty; *empty pride*.

re mit'; *forgive*.

guilt' y of; *the fault of*.

I MUST DIE.

NOTE. — Richard Langhorne, during the reign of Charles II of England, was unjustly condemned and executed. Just before his death, he wrote the following exquisite lines.

1. It is told me I must die:

O happiness!

Be glad, O my soul!

And rejoice in Jesus, thy Savior!

If He intended thy perdition,

Would He have laid down His life for thee?

Would He have called thee with so much love,

And illuminated thee with the light of the Spirit?

Would He have given thee His cross,

And given thee shoulders to bear it with patience?

2. It is told me I must die:

O happy news!

Come on, my dearest soul;

Behold, thy Jesus calleth thee!

He prayed for thee upon His cross;

There He extended His arms to receive thee;

There He bowed down His head to kiss thee;

There He opened His heart to give thee entrance;

There He gave up His life to purchase life for thee.

3. It is told me I must die:

O what happiness!

I am going

To the place of my rest;

To the land of the living;

To the haven of security;

To the kingdom of peace;
 To the palace of my God;
 To the nuptials of the Lamb;
 To sit at the table of my King;
 To feed on the bread of angels;
 To see what no eye hath seen;
 To hear what no ear hath heard;
 To enjoy what the heart of man cannot comprehend.

4. O my Father!

O Thou best of all fathers!

Have pity on the most wretched of all Thy children!

I was lost, but by Thy mercy found;

I was dead, but by Thy grace am now raised again;

I was gone astray after vanity,

But I am now ready to appear before Thee.

O my Father!

Come, now, in mercy, receive Thy child!

Give him Thy kiss of peace;

Remit unto him all his sins;

Clothe him with Thy nuptial robe;

Permit him to have a place at Thy feast;

And forgive all those who are guilty of his death.

LESSON XXXVIII.

isth' mus; *a narrow strip of land.*

pop u la' tion; *inhabitants.*

sprin' kling; *small number.*

lem' ons; *a tropical fruit.*

hem' i sphere; *half of the globe.*

vines; *climbing plants.*

chop' ping; *cutting.*

par' rot; } *tropical birds.*
 tou' can; }

o' ri ole; *a bird.*

ant'-eat ers; *animals feeding on ants.*

ja guar' (gwär); *American tiger.*

vi' per; *a snake.*

bo' a con stric' tor; *a large serpent.*

gal' ler ies; *porches.*

trans fer' ring; *removing.*

bales; *bundles.*

freight; *transportation of goods.*

THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA AND THE CANAL.**PART I. THE ISTHMUS.**

1. Is it not a wonderful strip of earth and rock which ties North and South America together, commonly known by the name of "Isthmus of Panama"? The neck of an hourglass is not so narrow in comparison with the globes it joins as this little neck of land with North and South America above and below it.

2. From history the reader knows that it was a young Spaniard named Balboa who first crossed this isthmus, which journey made him famous for all times as one of the world's great discoverers. It took him twenty-nine days to cut his way through the thick forest and to climb the mountains, before he reached the great South Sea, which we call the Pacific Ocean. *v*

3. Now one can cross the isthmus in a very few hours. Shortly after gold was discovered in California, the Panama Railroad was built by Americans. It cost a great deal of money and thousands of lives. Indeed, so many men died of fever while working upon it, that it is said there was more than one death for every tie in the track.

4. Let us take a trip on this railroad to see what the country is like. We start from the city of Colon on the Atlantic side of the isthmus. The town has a mixed population of brown-faced Colombians, who speak nothing but Spanish, negroes from Jamaica, who address us in English, and Chinese, the first of whom were brought here to work on the railroad. Colon has also a sprinkling of French, Americans, and English.

5. The wide streets are lined with cocoa palm trees, each of which has a bushel or so of green cocoanuts hanging close to its trunk. These trees are found almost everywhere on the isthmus. Most of them are wild, but there

are also cocoanut plantations. The fruit ripens all the year round, and we see blossoms and nuts on the same tree.

6. Boarding the train, we notice that all the railroad officials are Americans, and the cars are much like ours at home. Each seat has a window, and we have a good view of the country as the train whirls us along through tropical wonders. Now we go by a banana plantation. The wide green leaves extend nearly as high as the top of the cars, and great bunches of green bananas bend down among them, almost touching the ground. Presently we pass orange trees loaded with fruit, and there is a tree filled with green and ripe lemons.

7. But now we are coming into the mountains; we are slowly climbing the hills. The series of great mountain chains running along the west side of our hemisphere, known as the Rockies and Andes, is found also on the Isthmus of Panama, although it is so low here that the greatest peaks are not half a mile high. There are woods about us. The trees stand very close together, and are so entwined with vines that we would not be able to make our way through them without chopping it out with an ax.

8. Birds we see but few, as they are frightened off by the noise of the train; but farther from the track there are bright-colored parrots and great scarlet-breasted toucans with bills four inches long. A yellow bird about as big as a robin whistles like a mocking bird, and beautifully woven nests of orioles hang down like bags from the trees.

9. As to wild animals, we find monkeys of all sizes, as well as ant-eaters, jaguars, and wild hogs. There are snakes, large and small, from the venomous viper to the great boa constrictor. There are plenty of insects. Notice the telegraph poles. They are made of iron. This is

because of the ants, some of which eat wood. These ants sometimes travel in armies, and they will consume a pine telegraph pole in a night.

10. But here we are on the other side of the mountains. We at once go down to the lowlands, and end our journey in Panama, with the Pacific Ocean before us. Panama is one of the most picturesque cities of the hemisphere. Its houses are built like those of old Spain, with galleries hanging out. The streets go up hill and down hill, and wind in and out around a great bay which is guarded from the sea by a green island. Far out from the shore large ships are anchored which have come from different parts of the world.

11. We visit the wharves and see the great business that is done in transferring goods from one ocean to the other. Numberless boxes and bales of goods are now put on cars, which will carry them to Colon. There they will again be loaded on ships going north and south to ports of the Atlantic Ocean.

Those men we see working there must be paid for their labor, and the railroad charges high prices for freight. Indeed, the transfer of goods across the isthmus costs so much that it is often cheaper to send them from San Francisco to New York on ships clear around South America, although the distance is eight thousand miles greater.

12. What a fine thing it would be if we had a canal cut across the isthmus wide and deep enough for the biggest ships to sail through!

Such canals have been planned ever since Balboa showed that the two great oceans at this place are so close together. The great traveler Alexander von Humboldt, who spent several years in Central America, considered no fewer than nine different routes for a waterway between the two oceans. ✓

LESSON XXXIX.

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| ma la' ri a; <i>a sickness.</i> | cal cu la' tions; <i> reckonings.</i> |
| dec' i ma ted; <i>greatly reduced</i> <i>in number.</i> | pre cau' tion; <i>guard, protection.</i> |
| me chan' ics; <i>skilled workmen.</i> | screens; <i>framework of crossed</i> <i>wires.</i> |
| boss' es; <i>foremen.</i> | pu' ny; <i>small.</i> |
| graft' ers; <i>cheats.</i> | a ban' doned; <i>given up.</i> |
| dis card'; <i>give up.</i> | skip' per; <i>master.</i> |
| sen' ti ment; <i>sympathy,</i> <i>feeling.</i> | warp; <i>to haul.</i> |
| bill; <i>a projected law, the draft</i> <i>of a law.</i> | buoys (bwoys); <i>floating marks.</i> |
| or' gan ized; <i>established,</i> <i>founded.</i> | con' crete; <i>crushed stone united</i> <i>by cement.</i> |
| ap point' ed; <i>named.</i> | link' ing; <i>connecting.</i> |
| | pyg' mies; <i>dwarfs.</i> |
| | thence; <i>from that place.</i> |
| | ob struc' tion; <i>hindrance.</i> |

THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA AND THE CANAL.

PART II. THE CANAL.

1. The Frenchmen were the first to start the digging of a canal across the isthmus. With Count de Lesseps at the head, who had just completed the great Suez Canal, a French Company began work on the canal at Colon in 1881. But it met enormous difficulties. There were the great rains. The isthmus is one of the rainiest parts of the world, the streams and rivers flowing down the mountains becoming raging torrents. Then there was the Chagres River, which crosses the line of the canal, and the number of feet this river sometimes rises in one night equals the height of a four-story house. It frequently destroyed the work of months in a few hours.

2. Besides there was the deadly yellow fever. It swept through the camps of the French canal diggers and decimated the forces. Engineers, clerks, mechanics, and bosses as well as Chinese laborers died by scores. Moreover, grafters robbed the Canal Company at every turn.

After several years of work and the expenditure of over two hundred million dollars, the crash came. In 1888 the company suspended payment, and work on the canal had to be given up. Many people wondered whether a canal of which about two-fifths was dug, ever could be completed.

3. But the world could not yet discard the project, and especially in the United States the sentiment in favor of a canal grew stronger and stronger. Finally, in 1902, Congress passed a bill which authorized the president to acquire for the United States all the rights and all property of the Canal Company, together with the Panama Railroad, at a cost not exceeding forty million dollars. For the further sum of ten million dollars the United States purchased from the newly organized Republic of Panama a strip of territory ten miles wide across the isthmus, called the Canal Zone. President Roosevelt appointed the Isthmian Canal Commission and all other officers under whose direction the great ship canal was to be constructed.

4. The work of the first years by the American forces was largely preparatory. Besides extensive surveys and long calculations and consultations the main thing was to make the isthmus fit to live on, and then to assemble the proper machinery and men. It was proved that malaria and yellow fever are communicated to human beings by the stings of mosquitoes. So men drained away all the stagnant water, and cut away all trees and underbrush and weeds, because in these places mosquitoes thrive and multiply.

5. As a further precaution every door and window in hotels, boarding houses, or any other building inhabited by man was guarded by mosquito-proof screens. So all canal workers were fully protected against the puny little

insect—the Flying Death. In all, two million dollars were spent to make the country fit to live in.

6. The idea of a sea-level canal had to be abandoned on account of its enormous cost and the long time needed for building it. Our government determined to carry the canal across the ridge of high and rocky hills at a height of eighty-five feet above sea level. This is expected to be done in five years, at a cost of one hundred and forty-five million dollars. The actual work on the canal was begun in 1906. Soon 50,000 men and ninety-five steam shovels were at work on the canal, blasting and digging out one million cubic yards every month.

7. In 1913, when the canal shall be finished, the skipper of a ship bound from San Francisco to New York will take her at full speed through the Bay of Panama between rows of buoys which mark the edges of the canal channel. At Sota Hill he will warp his ship into a lock—a sort of giant bathtub nine hundred feet long and one hundred feet wide, built of concrete that is as hard as rock. The lock gates close, water is let into the giant bathtub, and presently the ship is floating twenty-five feet higher than the sea. She is now hauled into another lock and similarly raised thirty feet higher. As the ship floats out of the second lock, she is in a lake fifty-five feet above sea level.

8. This lake, formed by throwing a great dam across the Rio Grande and its branches, is eight miles long. Along this lake the ship can go at full speed to Pedro Miguel. Here she enters another lock, and is raised thirty feet higher. From Pedro Miguel an open lake, eighty-five feet above sea level, stretches before her for twenty-three miles to Gatun, and she can steam at full speed nearly all the way, slowing down only for the narrow cut which is blasted through the summit of the mountain at Culebra.

9. To make this lake, the Chagres River and tributaries are caught by the Gatun dam, a sort of artificial mountain linking a chain of hills one mile and a half apart. This dam, beside which all other dams in the world are pygmies, is about a quarter of a mile wide at the base and one hundred thirty-five feet high at the crest. At Gatun the ship will step downstairs to sea level through a flight of three locks, one of which lowers her twenty-five feet, the others thirty feet each. Thence she will steam through eight miles of canal that has been dredged through the swamps, and thus out into the Atlantic. With quick handling and no obstruction at the locks our ships should make the forty-seven miles from ocean to ocean in less than twelve hours. ✓

LESSON XL.

gar' nered; *stored, collected.*
 mist; *fog.*
 shoots; *sprouts.*
 hon' ey suc kle; *a flower.*
 studs; *knobs.*

me thinks'; *it seems to me.*
 dim' ples; *ripples.*
 gleam; *ray.*
 am' ber; *yellowish.*
 ab rupt'; *sudden.*

AN APRIL DAY.

1. All day the low-hung clouds have dropped
 Their garnered fullness down;
 All day that soft, gray mist hath wrapped
 Hill, valley, grove, and town.
2. There has not been a sound to-day
 To break the calm of nature;
 Nor motion, I might almost say,
 Of life, or living creature;
3. Of waving bough, or warbling bird,
 Or cattle faintly lowing:
 I could have half believed I heard
 The leaves and blossoms growing.

4. I stood to hear—I love it well—
The rain's continuous sound;
Small drops, but thick and fast they fell,
Down straight into the ground.
5. For leafy thickness is not yet
Earth's naked breast to screen,
Though every dripping branch is set
With shoots of tender green.
6. Sure, since I looked at early morn,
Those honeysuckle buds
Have swelled to double growth; that thorn
Hath put forth larger studs.
7. That lilac's cleaving cones have burst,
The milk-white flowers revealing;
E'en now, upon my senses first
Methinks their sweets are stealing.
8. The very earth, the steamy air,
Is all with fragrance rife;
And grace and beauty everywhere
Are flushing into life.
9. Down, down they come—those fruitful stores,
Those earth-rejoicing drops!
A momentary deluge pours,
Then thins, decreases, stops.
10. And ere the dimples on the stream
Have circled out of sight,
Lo! from the west a parting gleam
Breaks forth, of amber light.
11. But yet behold—abrupt and loud,
Comes down the glittering rain:
The farewell of a passing cloud,
The fringes of her train.

LESSON XLI.

av a ri' cious; *greedy of gain.*
 in' ti mate; *familiur.*
 men' tioned; *named, spoken of.*
 fru gal' i ty; *careful housekeep-*
ing.
 ac qui si' tions; *accumulations.*
 dag' gers; *stabs.*
 moil' ing; *soiling one's self with*
severe labor.
 pal' try; *worthless, mean.*
 dis gust' ed; *displeased.*

for sake'; *leave.*
 vi' sion; *imaginary sight.*
 mat' tock; *a kind of pickax.*
 o' men; *sign.*
 house tile; *kind of brick.*
 em braced'; *clasped in the*
arms.
 ec' sta sy; *excess.*
 trans' ports; *bursts, very*
strong emotions.
 al lay'; *diminish.*

THE DISCONTENTED MILLER.

1. Whang, the Miller, was naturally avaricious; nobody loved money better than he, or more respected those who had it. When people would talk of a rich man in company, Whang would say: "I know him very well; he and I have been long acquainted; he and I are intimate." But if ever a poor man was mentioned, he had not the least knowledge of the man; he might be very well, for aught he knew; but he was not fond of making many acquaintances, and loved to choose his company.

2. Whang, however, with all his eagerness for riches, was poor. He had nothing but the profits of his mill to support him; but though these were small, they were certain. While his mill stood and went he was sure of eating; and his frugality was such that he every day laid some money by, which he would at intervals count and contemplate with much satisfaction. Yet still his acquisitions were not equal to his desires; he only found himself above want, whereas he desired to be possessed of affluence.

3. One day, as he was indulging these wishes, he was informed that a neighbor of his had found a pan of money under ground, having dreamed of it three nights running before. These tidings were daggers to the heart

of poor Whang. "Here am I," says he, "toiling and moiling from morning till night for a few paltry farthings, while Neighbor Thanks only goes quietly to bed and dreams himself into thousands before morning. O that I could dream like him! With what pleasure would I dig round the pan! How slyly would I carry it home! Not even my wife should see me; and then, oh, the pleasure of thrusting one's hand into a heap of gold up to the elbow!"

4. Such reflections only served to make the miller unhappy; he discontinued his former assiduity; he was quite disgusted with small gains, and his customers began to forsake him. Every day he repeated the wish, and every night laid himself down in order to dream. Fortune, which was for a long time unkind, at last, however, seemed to smile on his distresses, and indulged him with the wished-for vision. He dreamed that under a certain part of the foundation of his mill there was concealed a monstrous pan of gold and diamonds, buried deep in the ground, and covered with a large, flat stone.

5. He concealed his good luck from every person, as is usual in money dreams, in order to have the vision repeated the two succeeding nights, by which he should be certain of its truth. His wishes in this, also, were answered; he still dreamed of the same pan of money in the very same place. Now, therefore, it was past a doubt. So, getting up early the third morning, he repaired alone, with a mattock in his hand, to the mill, and began to undermine that part of the wall to which the vision directed him.

6. The first omen of success that he met was a broken ring; digging still deeper, he turned up a house tile, quite new and entire. At last, after much digging, he came to a broad, flat stone, but then so large that it was beyond a man's strength to remove it. "Here," cried

he, in raptures, to himself; "here it is; under this stone there is room for a very large pan of diamonds, indeed. I must e'en go home to my wife, and tell her the whole affair, and get her to assist me in turning it up!"

7. Away, therefore, he went, and acquainted his wife with every circumstance of their good fortune. Her raptures on this occasion may easily be imagined. She flew round his neck, and embraced him in an ecstasy of joy; but these transports did not allay their eagerness to know the exact sum. Returning, therefore, together to the same place where Whang had been digging, there they found — not indeed the expected treasure — but the mill, their only support, undermined and fallen.

LESSON XLII.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| re dressed'; <i>set right.</i> | punc tu al'i ty; <i>exactness in time.</i> |
| cure; <i>healing.</i> | ty' rant; <i>a cruel ruler.</i> |
| pros' per; <i>be successful.</i> | |

PROVERBS.

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Point not at others' spots with a foul finger.

Much rust needs a rough file.

Evil companions corrupt good morals.

Unskilled workmen will blame their tools.

When children are little, they make their parents' head ache, and when they grow up, they make their hearts ache.

Practice makes perfect.

Love rules without law.

It always pays to be a gentleman.

A fault confessed is half redressed.

Never speak ill of the absent.

Prevention is better than cure.

Man proposes, but God disposes.

Spare the rod and spoil the child.
 To err is human; to forgive, divine.
 Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.
 Three removals are as bad as a fire.
 Punctuality is the soul of business.
 He who digs a pit for others falls into it himself.
 Speak naught but good of the dead.
 My native land is dear to me; yet dearer still is liberty.
 He who excuses himself accuses himself.
 In union there is strength.
 Custom is a tyrant.
 Everybody's business is nobody's business.
 Our flatterers are our worst enemies.
 What you do speaks louder than what you say.
 He that is full of himself is very empty.
 He who ceases to pray ceases to prosper.
 He has hard work who has nothing to do.
 He that rises late must trot all day.
 Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.
 No man is proud who knows himself.

LESSON XLIII.

| | |
|---|--|
| en coun'tered; <i>met.</i> | ver'min; <i>troublesome animals</i> |
| viv'id; <i>lively.</i> | or <i>insects of small size.</i> |
| in di vid' u al ly; <i>considered as</i> | an'te lope; <i>a deerlike animal.</i> |
| <i>a single being.</i> | car' cass; <i>dead body.</i> |
| bull' dog; <i>a kind of dog.</i> | kraal; <i>group of native huts.</i> |
| fling; <i>cast, throw.</i> | tor' pid; <i>inactive.</i> |
| main tain'; <i>keep.</i> | roach'es; <i>insects.</i> |
| pre ci'sion; <i>exactness.</i> | cen'ti pedes; <i>insects having a</i> |
| prog' ress; <i>moving onward.</i> | <i>pair of legs to each joint.</i> |
| gò ril' la; <i>the largest known ape.</i> | scor' pi ons; <i>poisonous insects</i> |
| fu' gi tives; <i>those fleeing from</i> | <i>shaped like small lobsters.</i> |
| <i>danger.</i> | pests; <i>very mischievous or de-</i> |
| pin' cers; <i>sharp jaws.</i> | <i>structive things.</i> |
| | doomed; <i>destined to die.</i> |

THE ARMY ANT.

1. In the forests of South Africa lives a most remarkable ant known as the Army Ant. Du Chaillu, in his travels through Eastern Africa, encountered this ant, and gives a very vivid description of it.

2. It is the dread, not of man alone, but of every living thing, from the elephant and leopard down to the smallest insect. A half inch is about the average length of one of these ants, though some of them are found of twice that length. Individually they are bold; the bulldog has not more courage. But their great power lies in the immense armies into which they organize themselves, and the military order which they preserve. When on the march, they go in columns of two inches broad, but often miles in length.

3. Du Chaillu once saw a column formed in close order which occupied twelve hours, from sunrise to sunset, in passing the spot from which he watched them: and, as they march by night as well as by day, he did not know how long the column had been passing before he saw it. All along the line were larger ants, clearly officers, standing outside the column until their hosts had passed, when they moved on and joined them. How many millions upon millions there were in this line it would be idle to attempt to estimate.

4. When, on the march, the column comes to a small stream, they fling across it a living bridge. Selecting a spot where the branch of a tree reaches nearly over to one on the other bank, only lower down, the second of the bridge builders, as we may fairly call them, with his fore claws grasps the hind claws of the one in front, and lowers him over: a third does the same by the second; and so on until this living chain is long enough to reach the

desired point. Line after line is thus stretched until a bridge is formed wide enough for the whole army to pass over.

5. Imagine the strength of muscle which these creatures must possess to enable them to maintain their grasp for hours. The marching column throws itself into line of battle with wonderful precision. When it sweeps over the country, nothing living can stay its progress. Du Chaillu was once roaming through the forest in search of game. All at once he was startled by a strange sound. It was caused by a rush of wild beasts. He thought he caught the glimpse of a gorilla. Soon after, a herd of elephants were rushing through the forest, and the air grew thick with insects.

6. While wondering what this might mean, he felt the torments of innumerable bites, and in an instant he found himself almost covered by ants. He had been fallen upon by the skirmishers of an army of ants. He set off at the sharpest run in the direction which the other fugitives had taken. Fortunately his speed was greater than that of the ants; and as soon as he thought himself safe, he stripped off his clothing. It fairly swarmed with ants which had buried themselves in the garments and had been striking their pincers clear through into the flesh beneath. They never let go their hold until they have taken out the flesh. Pull at one, his body is separated from his head, and the jaws, if we may so call them, keep their hold. Du Chaillu had just resumed his garments when the ants came upon him, and he again took to flight, never stopping until he had crossed a stream and taken refuge in a swamp beyond.

7. These ants cannot bear the heat of the sun, and hence are only found in regions covered by forests. If on the march they come to an open place, they dig a tunnel

four or five feet under ground, through which they pass to the jungles on the opposite side.

8. When they enter a village, the inhabitants run for their lives. In an incredibly short space every hut is cleared of vermin, and the only trace left of them are the bones of rats and mice and the horny wing cases of insects. Nothing that breathes comes amiss to them. An antelope which had been shot by Du Chaillu was picked to the bones in a few hours. The carcass of an elephant would be cleared away quite as quickly as by a kraal of natives. They sometimes come upon a huge snake lying torpid, perhaps, after the manner of his species, gorged with food. In that case it is all over with His Serpentine Majesty.

9. "I was always rejoiced," says Du Chaillu, "when they got hold of a serpent, though these are pretty shy, and manage generally to get out of the way, except when they are in a state of torpor." But rats, mice, roaches, centipedes, scorpions, spiders, and such small pests are doomed. A swarm of ants will kill a rat in a minute or two, and devour him in almost as short a space. Upon the whole, they are a blessing to the human race in Africa, by keeping down the vermin, which would otherwise render the country uninhabitable.

LESSON XLIV.

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Ex' o dus; <i>the second book of Moses.</i> | wrath; <i>anger, fury.</i> |
| sal va' tion; <i>deliverance.</i> | stub' ble; <i>stumps of grain.</i> |
| ex alt'; <i>glorify.</i> | con gealed'; <i>became firm.</i> |
| char' i ots; <i>two-wheeled cars for war.</i> | Sanc' tu a ry; <i>a sacred place.</i> |

THE SONG OF MOSES.

EXODUS 15, 1—19.

1. I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

2. The Lord is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation: He is my God, and I will prepare Him an habitation: my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

3. The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is His name.

4. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.

5. The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

6. Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power: Thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

7. And in the greatness of Thine excellency Thou hast overthrown them that rose up against Thee: Thou sentest forth Thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

8. And with the blast of Thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

9. The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

10. Thou didst blow with Thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

11. Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

12. Thou stretchedst out Thy right hand, the earth swallowed them.

13. Thou in Thy mercy hast led forth the people which Thou hast redeemed: Thou hast guided them in Thy strength unto Thy holy habitation.

14. The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina.

15. Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away.

16. Fear and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of Thine arm they shall be as still as a stone; till Thy people pass over, O Lord, till the people pass over which Thou hast purchased.

17. Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of Thine inheritance, in the place, O Lord, which Thou hast made for Thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which Thy hands have established.

18. The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

19. For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

LESSON XLV.

thith'er; *to that place.*

as sure'; *declare.*

i de'a; *thought.*

can'ni bals; *man-eaters.*

bay'o nets; *daggers attached to
muskets.*

ob li ga'tions; *binding promises.*

ab hor'; *despise.*

jus'tice; *right.*

sub'jects; *persons under the
authority of a ruler.*

bar'ba rous ly; *savagely.*

ag gres'sors; *assailants.*

com plain'; *find fault.*

im'pu dence; *shamelessness.*

KING CHARLES II AND WILLIAM PENN.

King Charles. Well, friend William! I have sold you a noble province in North America: but still, I suppose, you have no thoughts of going thither yourself?

Penn. Yes, I have, I assure thee, friend Charles; and I am just come to bid thee farewe'll.

King Charles. What! venture yourself among the savages of North America? Why, man, what security have you that you will not be in their war-kettle in two hours after setting foot on their shores?

Penn. The best security in the world.

King Charles. I doubt that, friend William; I have no idea of any security against those cannibals but in a regiment of good soldiers, with their muskets and bayonets, and, mind, I tell you beforehand that, with all my good will for you and your family, to whom I am under obligations, I will not send a single soldier with you.

Penn. I want none of thy soldiers, Charles. I depend on something better than thy soldiers.

King Charles. Ah! what may that be?

Penn. Why, I depend upon themselves; on the working of their own hearts; on their notions of justice; on their moral sense.

King Charles. A fine thing, this same moral sense, no doubt: but I fear you will not find much of it among the Indians of North America.

Penn. And why not among them as well as others?

King Charles. Because if they had possessed any, they would not have treated my subjects so barbarously as they have done.

Penn. That is no proof of the contrary, friend Charles. Thy subjects were the aggressors. When thy subjects first went to North America, they found these poor people the fondest and kindest creatures in the world. Every day they would watch for them to come ashore, and hasten to meet them, and feast them on the best fish, and venison, and corn, which was all they had. In return for this hospitality of the savages, as we call them, thy subjects, termed Christians, seized on their country and rich hunt-

ing grounds for farms for themselves. Now, is it to be wondered at that these much injured people should have been driven to desperation by such injustice, and that, burning with revenge, they should have committed some excesses?

King Charles. Well, then, I hope you will not complain when they come to treat you in the same manner.

Penn. I am not afraid of it.

King Charles. Ah! how will you avoid it? You mean to get their hunting grounds, too, I suppose?

Penn. Yes, but not by driving these poor people away from them.

King Charles. No, indeed? How then will you get their lands?

Penn. I mean to buy their lands of them.

King Charles. Buy their lands of them? Why, man, you have already bought them of me!

Penn. Yes, I know I have, and at a dear rate, too; but I did it only to get thy good will, not that I thought thou hadst any right to their lands.

King Charles. How, man? no rights to their lands?

Penn. No, friend Charles, no right; no right at all. What right hast thou to their lands?

King Charles. Why, the right of discovery, to be sure; the right which the Pope and all Christian kings have agreed to give one another.

Penn. The right of discovery? A strange kind of right, indeed! Now suppose, friend Charles, that some canoeload of these Indians, crossing the sea, and discovering this island of Great Britain, were to claim it as their own, and set it up for sale over thy head, what wouldst thou think of it?

King Charles. Why — why — why — I must confess I should think it a piece of great impudence in them.

Penn. Well, then, how canst thou, a Christian, and a Christian prince, too, do that which thou so utterly condemnest in these people, whom thou callest savages? And suppose, again, that these Indians, on thy refusal to give up thy island of Great Britain, were to make war on thee, and, having weapons more destructive than thine, were to destroy many of thy subjects and drive the rest away—wouldst thou not think it horribly cruel?

King Charles. I must say, friend William, that I should; how can I say otherwise?

Penn. Well, then, how can I, who call myself a Christian, do what I should abhor even in the heathen? No, I will not do it. But I will buy the right of the proper owners, even of the Indians themselves.

LESSON XLVI.

for' tune tell'er; *one who pretends to tell the future.*

pre ten'sions; *claims.*

for' ti tude; *courage, firmness.*

res ig na'tion; *submission.*

o ver whelms'; *bears down.*

vag'a bond; *tramp.*

in volved'; *wrapped up.*

de ceased'; *dead.*

heir; *one who inherits any property.*

de prived'; *robbed.*

in curred'; *brought upon herself.*

gos' pel truth; *anything unfailingly true.*

rogue; *dishonest person.*

vig' ils; *watches.*

to be in debt' ed; *to owe.*

chaise (shaz); *a two-wheeled carriage.*

re cov' er; *get again.*

MRS. CREDULOUS AND THE FORTUNE TELLER.

Mrs. Credulous. Are you the fortune teller, sir, that knows everything?

Fortune Teller. I sometimes consult futurity, madam; but I make no pretensions to any supernatural knowledge.

Mrs. Credulous. Ay, so you say; but everybody else says you know *everything*. Now I have come all the way

from Boston to consult you; for you must know I have met with a dreadful loss.

Fortune Teller. We are liable to losses in this world, madam.

Mrs. Credulous. Yes; and I have had my share of them, though I shall be only fifty, coming Thanksgiving.

Fortune Teller. You must have learned to bear misfortune with fortitude, by this time.

Mrs. Credulous. I don't know how that is, though my dear husband — rest his soul — used to say, "Molly, you are as patient as Job, though you never had children to lose, as he had."

Fortune Teller. Job was a model of patience, madam, and few could lose their all with so much resignation.

Mrs. Credulous. Ah, sir, that is too true; for even the small loss I have suffered overwhelms me!

Fortune Teller. The loss of property, madam, comes home to the bosom of the best of us.

Mrs. Credulous. Yes, sir: and when the thing lost cannot be replaced, it is doubly distressing. When my poor goodman, on our wedding day, gave me the ring, "Keep it, Molly," said he, "till you die, for my sake." And now, that I should have lost it, after keeping it thirty years, and locking it up so carefully all the time, as I did —

Fortune Teller. We cannot be too careful in this world, madam; our best friends often deceive us.

Mrs. Credulous. True, sir, true. — but who would have thought that the child I took, as it were, out of the street, and brought up as my own, could have been guilty of such ingratitude? She never would have touched what was not her own, if her vagabond lover had not put her up to it.

Fortune Teller. Ah, madam, ingratitude is the basest of all crimes!

Mrs. Credulous. Yes; but to think that the impudent creature should deny she took it, when I saw it in the possession of that wretch myself.

Fortune Teller. Impudence, madam, usually accompanies crime. But my time is precious, and the star that rules your destiny will set, and your fate be involved in darkness, unless I proceed to business immediately. The star informs me, madam, that you are a widow.

Mrs. Credulous. La! sir, were you acquainted with my deceased husband?

Fortune Teller. No, madam; we do not receive our knowledge by such means. Thy name is Mary, and thy dwelling place is Boston.

Mrs. Credulous. Some spirit must have told you this, for certain.

Fortune Teller. This is not all, madam. You were married at the age of twenty years, and were the sole heir of your deceased husband.

Mrs. Credulous. I perceive, sir, you know *everything*.

Fortune Teller. Madam, I cannot help knowing what I *do* know; I must therefore inform you that your adopted daughter, in the dead of night—

Mrs. Credulous. No, sir; it was in daytime.

Fortune Teller. Do not interrupt me, madam. In the dead of night, your adopted daughter *planned* the robbery which deprived you of your wedding ring.

Mrs. Credulous. No earthly being could have told you this; for I never let my right hand know I possessed it, lest some evil should happen to it.

Fortune Teller. Hear me, madam; you have come all this distance to consult the fates and find your ring.

Mrs. Credulous. You have guessed my intentions exactly, sir.

Fortune Teller. Guessed, madam? I *know* this is your object; and I know, moreover, that your ungrateful daughter has incurred your displeasure, by receiving the addresses of a worthless man.

Mrs. Credulous. Every word is gospel truth.

Fortune Teller. This man has persuaded your daughter —

Mrs. Credulous. I knew he did; I told her so. But, good sir, can you tell me who has the ring?

Fortune Teller. This young man has it.

Mrs. Credulous. But he denies it.

Fortune Teller. No matter, madam, he has it.

Mrs. Credulous. But how shall I obtain it again?

Fortune Teller. The law points out the way, madam; it is *my* business to point out the rogue, — you must catch him.

Mrs. Credulous. You are right, sir, — and if there is law to be had, I will spend every cent I own, but I will have it. I knew he was the robber, and I thank you for the information. [Going.]

Fortune Teller. But thanks, madam, will not pay for all my nightly vigils, consultations, and calculations.

Mrs. Credulous. O right, sir! I forgot to pay you. What am I indebted to you?

Fortune Teller. Only five dollars, madam.

Mrs. Credulous. [Handing him the money.] There it is, sir. I would have paid twenty rather than not have found the ring.

Fortune Teller. I never take but five, madam. Farewell, madam, your friend is at the door with your chaise. [He leaves the room.]

[Enter Friend.]

Friend. Well, Mary, what does the fortune teller say?

Mrs. Credulous. O, he told me I was a widow, and lived in Boston, and had an adopted daughter, — and —

Friend. But you knew all this before, did you not?

Mrs. Credulous. Yes; but how should *he* know it? He told me, too, that I had lost a ring.

Friend. Did he tell you where to find it?

Mrs. Credulous. O yes! he says that fellow has it, and I must go to law and get it, if he will not give it up. What do you think of that?

Friend. It is precisely what any fool could have told you. But how much did you pay for this precious information?

Mrs. Credulous. Only five dollars.

Friend. How much was the ring worth?

Mrs. Credulous. Why, two dollars, at least.

Friend. Then you have paid ten dollars for a chaise to bring you here, five dollars for the information that you had already, and all this to gain possession of a ring not worth one quarter of the expense!

Mrs. Credulous. O, the rascal! How he has cheated me! I will go to the world's end, but I will be revenged.

Friend. You had better go home, and say nothing about it; for every effort to recover your money will only expose your folly.



PART II.

LESSON XLVII.

ward; *division*.

shells; *bombs*.

mat'ed; *tangled*.

damp; *moist*.

pride; *glory*.

bap tized'; *bathed*.

en shrined'; *enclosed*.

waft'ed; *bore, carried*.

SOMEBODY'S DARLING.

1. Into a ward of the whitewashed halls,
Where the dead and dying lay,
Wounded by bayonets, shells, and balls,
Somebody's darling was borne one day;
Somebody's darling so young and brave,
Wearing yet on his pale, sweet face,
Soon to be hid by the dust of the grave,
The lingering light of his boyhood's grace.
2. Matted and damp are the curls of gold,
Kissing the snow of that fair young brow;
Pale are the lips of delicate mold —
Somebody's darling is dying now.
Back from his beautiful blue-veined brow,
Brush all the wandering waves of gold;
Cross his hands on his bosom now;
Somebody's darling is still and cold.
3. Kiss him once for somebody's sake,
Murmur a prayer soft and low;
One bright curl from its fair mates take;
They were somebody's pride, you know;
Somebody's hand has rested there;
Was it a mother's, soft and white?
And have the lips of a sister fair
Been baptized in the waves of light?

4. God knows best! He was somebody's love;
 Somebody's heart enshrined him there;
 Somebody wafted his name above,
 Night and morn, on the wings of prayer.
 Somebody wept when he marched away,
 Looking so handsome, brave, and grand;
 Somebody's kiss on his forehead lay;
 Somebody clung to his parting hand.
5. Somebody's watching and waiting for him,
 Yearning to hold him again to her heart;
 And there he lies, with his blue eyes dim,
 And the smiling childlike lips apart.
 Tenderly bury the fair young dead,
 Pausing to drop on his grave a tear;
 Carve on the wooden slab at his head,
 "Somebody's darling slumbers here."

LESSON XLVIII.

| | |
|---|---|
| mem' brane; <i>a thin skinlike covering.</i> | sub serv' i ent; <i>helpful.</i> |
| cor' ne a; <i>a horny membrane.</i> | ret' i na; <i>the net-like nervous membrane within the eye.</i> |
| i' ris; <i>the colored ring which surrounds the pupil.</i> | op' tic nerve; <i>seeing nerve.</i> |
| lens; <i>a body which concentrates the rays of light.</i> | or' bit; <i>the cavity in which the eye is situated.</i> |
| a' que ous hu' mor; <i>a watery fluid in front of the lens.</i> | lu' mi nous; <i>shining.</i> |
| tel' e scope; <i>an instrument for viewing distant objects.</i> | re fract's'; <i>bends.</i> |
| vit' re ous hu' mor; <i>a jelly-like fluid behind the lens.</i> | ac com' mo dates; <i>suits.</i> |
| | land' scape; <i>a scene in nature.</i> |
| | dale; <i>valley.</i> |
| | de' tails; <i>small parts.</i> |
| | cel' e bra ted; <i>famous.</i> |
| | o mit' ted; <i>left out.</i> |

THE EYE.

1. When we look at the eye, we see that the front part of it is bright and transparent, and that behind this there is a dark-looking curtain, with an opening in its center.

The bright part is the cornea, and is fixed into what we call the white of the eye, very loose, in the same way that a watch glass is fixed into its case. The curtain is named the iris, and the opening through it, the pupil.

2. The iris is a very delicate, circular muscle, and its color is owing to a dark point which covers it behind, and which easily washes off. The action of the iris is seen if we bring a candle close to the eye: the pupil contracts close and closer, according to the brightness of the light, and enlarges again as it is removed. In order that its action may be perfectly free, the part in which the iris moves is filled with a watery fluid called the *aqueous humor*.

3. Farther back, in the ball of the eye, are other curious parts, as the crystalline lens, which is shaped like a small glass in a telescope, and is placed exactly behind the pupil, and another humor, called the vitreous humor.

4. All these parts are made to conduct and gather the rays of light. They are subsequent to another part called the retina, which is the expansion of the optic, or seeing, nerve. This nerve passes through the coats of the eye, and immediately divides itself into a half circular network, covering and lining the whole of the inner surface of its back part. It is by means of the retina that we receive impressions of light, and see the objects around us.

5. The ball of the eye is of a roundish shape, and furnished with six muscles, by means of which it can be turned in every direction.

6. This delicate and curious organ, the eye, is very carefully protected. It is placed in a bony cavity called the orbit, and provided with two movable, outside curtains, known under the name of eyelids. These guard it from dust, keep the front bright and clear, and spread the tears over the whole surface of the eyeball, so that it

may be always moist and easily movable. In these offices the eyelids are assisted by the eyelashes and the eyebrows.

7. The retina is perhaps the most delicately sensible membrane in the frame of man or beast. It is readily affected by the rays of light, which, when too intense, excite very painful sensations. To prevent this, the eye is furnished with lids and lashes.

8. To enable us to close our eyes when we go to sleep, or when we are pained by an excess of light, the lids are provided with muscles, and can perform very rapid motions.

9. Let us now consider how admirably our eyes are fitted for vision. It is light which renders objects visible to us, for we cannot see in a dark room, or in a very dark night. Now, what we call light is a succession of rays proceeding from any luminous body, which rays, after striking upon objects, are reflected or thrown back. When we see an object, therefore, it is because these reflected rays enter our eyes, and fall upon the retina. In this way a perfect picture is formed at the bottom of the eye, just as we see our face reflected in a looking glass.

10. In order, however, that the image or picture may be formed upon the retina, it is needful that the rays of light should pass through the eye. For this purpose the cornea and parts behind are transparent, and permit the rays to pass freely, while the crystalline lens refracts, or bends them, so that they proceed in a proper form and direction.

11. During this operation, the iris contracts or expands, to regulate the quantity of light which the retina can bear. By this beautiful and simple contrivance, the eye accommodates itself to the different degrees of light to which it is exposed. It is a bad practice to look for a long time at

a strong light, as this weakens the iris, blunts the sensibility of the retina, and consequently injures the sight.

12. It is wonderful to reflect how perfect an instrument the eye is. Thus, in looking at a landscape of hill, dale, and plain, even of many miles in extent, the whole space, with its numberless objects of all colors and sizes, is represented on the bottom of the eye; and though the picture is not half an inch in diameter, how accurate it is, and how minute in all its details, not a line ~~or~~ a shade being omitted! It has been called the great inlet of man's knowledge: and a celebrated writer has said that "the opening of the eye is to the human countenance what light is to the natural landscape."

LESSON XLIX.

dis trib' u ted; *spread.*

lat' i tudes; *geographical widths.*

sub sist' ence; *support.*

vi cin' i ty; *neighborhood.*

in' stance; *an example.*

in ter cept'; *obstruct.*

preened; *dressed.*

steer' ing; *pursuing a course.*

rec og ni' tion; *acknowledgment.*

re straint'; *hindrance of motion.*

ob scure'; *darkens.*

in' stincts; *unreasoning
promptings to action.*

honk; *cry of the wild goose.*

check' ing; *restraining.*

con' gre gate; *collect.*

rush' es; *aquatic plants.*

en liv' ened; *given life to.*

de note'; *mark, point out.*

squad' rons; *parties.*

e vin' cing; *showing.*

THE CANADA GOOSE.

1. The common wild goose is generally distributed throughout North America from the Arctic Sea to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. It breeds in many parts of the northern United States, and thence northward throughout the Arctic re-

gions. Its arrival in the northern latitudes from the South is always hailed with joy by the inhabitants of those cheerless regions, as they depend largely upon these birds for their means of subsistence. It is among the first of the wild fowl to appear in the spring.

2. In about three weeks after their arrival the birds have selected their mates, and are dispersed throughout the country. They choose sites for their nests where there are wooded and swampy districts in the vicinity of quiet water, and where the cover of grass or plants is sufficient for concealment. The nest is usually upon the ground, although it has been found upon the stump of a tree surrounded by water, and also in the branches of a tree at a considerable height. It is composed of various materials, such as dry plants, dead leaves, and grass, or sticks and moss. It is quite large, and lined with feathers and down. The eggs vary from six to nine, sometimes more, and they are a uniform ivory white.

3. During July the young are hatched, and the old birds molt. This is a dangerous period for them, as their means of escape are limited to hiding away in the marshes, at which they are very skillful, or else keeping out in the center of lakes or other large bodies of water. Many, however, are killed at this period. Sometimes whole flocks are captured alive, of which fact Hearne relates an instance. He says that some Indians once drove into Fort Prince of Wales, on the Churchill River, forty-one old and young birds which were incapable of flying, and which were herded as easily as if they had been domesticated.

4. As the days begin to shorten, and ice begins to form upon the inland waters, the wild geese commence preparing for their journey South. Feathers having been thoroughly preened and cleaned, and protected by an abundant dressing of oil, everything is in readiness, and, a favorable wind

from the north having sprung up, the flock, with loud cries and much flapping of the wings, rises in the air and takes a direct course for the winter home. Led by some experienced gander, who also has the extra duty of cleaving the way through the air, which becomes at times most fatiguing, the birds are strung out in a lengthened V-shaped line, and, with slow, heavy beating of the wings, the flock speeds on by day and night.

5. There is nothing to intercept their course; in the great fields of air through which they move there are no bounds or limits: the route is free and open. At least so it appears to us as we watch them steering across the blue vault of heaven and sending down at intervals from out the sky a note of recognition to the inhabitants of the earth.

6. But all is not so free and without restraint, even to the voyagers of the trackless wastes of the airy regions, for in their path rises occasionally a mist that obscures all landmarks; and although it might be supposed that birds like these, whose instincts are so keen and unerring, would never lose the points of the compass, yet, when shut in by a fog or encompassed by a storm of snow, the geese become confused, seeming to lose all knowledge of their course, and frequently descend and alight upon the ground.

7. Migration usually is performed at night, though at times many flocks are seen journeying by day. When traveling, the leader often utters a honk, as if asking how those following him were getting on, and is answered with an "All's well" reply from the rear. If he becomes fatigued by the extra labor of cleaving the air, some other old bird moves up and takes his place, the former leader dropping into the ranks again, without disturbing their regularity or checking the speed.

8. Toward October, or sometimes in November, these geese begin to arrive from the northern regions, seeking their winter quarters. They come in comparatively small flocks, succeeding each other rapidly, and, on alighting, congregate in noisy masses, often containing many hundreds of individuals.

9. At all times the Canada Goose is a vigilant and wary bird, having sentinels posted, which with outstretched necks remain motionless, keeping a keen watch around. After a period of duty, they are regularly relieved by others.

10. Canada geese subsist upon berries in their season, grasses, roots, and leaves of various marine plants, which they dig up from the bottom with their bills. While feeding, if feeling secure, they are often very noisy, and keep up a continual calling. Soon after the rising of the sun they leave the marshes and retire to the bays and shallows, and usually keep well away from the shore.

11. These geese are easily domesticated, and will breed in confinement, and often are as contented in captivity as the common farmyard bird. They are easily kept in confinement, only evincing a desire to depart when the time for the migration comes, and then they watch for their brethren on the wing bound for the northern breeding grounds. In the interior the wild geese visit the grain fields in great numbers, and many are killed in such places, from blinds made in the stacks of straw or in holes in the ground. As spring draws near, and the green of the grass and rushes, and the swelling of the buds upon the trees denote the beginning of another summer, the wild geese grow uneasy and congregate together, keeping up an incessant honking and calling with much dressing of the feathers and general preparation for the great event.

12. After the month of April, in most localities, unless the season is exceptionally late, the great armies of this

species have left our eastern shores, and the bays and wide sheets of water which during all the dreary months have echoed with the stirring calls, and have been enlivened by the moving, active figures of these gamy birds, will lie silent and in many instances deserted until, with the chill winds of another autumn, are heard the joyful cries of the returning squadrons, recognizing again their winter home.

LESSON L.

mas' sa cre; *a cruel murder of many.*

toll' ing; *ringing.*

slaugh' tered; *killed.*

bal' co ny; *an elevated porch.*

a tro' cious; *extremely cruel.*

di a bol' ic al; *devilish.*

med' âl; *a memorial coin.*

sooth' ing; *quieting.*

rav' ing; *raging.*

con so la' tion; *comfort.*

Prot' es tants; *people opposed to the Catholic religion.*

THE MASSACRE OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW.

1. In the autumn of the year one thousand five hundred and seventy-two, one of the greatest barbarities ever committed in the world took place at Paris. It is called in history the Massacre of Saint Bartholomew, because it took place on Saint Bartholomew's Eve. The day fell on Saturday, the twenty-third of August. On that day all the great leaders of the Protestants, who were there called Huguenots, were assembled together for the purpose, as was represented to them, of doing honor to the marriage of their chief, the young King of Navarre, with the sister of Charles the Ninth, a miserable young king, who then occupied the French throne.

2. This dull creature was made to believe by his mother and other fierce Roman Catholics about him, that the Huguenots meant to take his life; and he was persuaded to give secret orders that, on the tolling of a great bell,

they should be fallen upon by an overpowering force of armed men, and slaughtered wherever they could be found.

3. When the appointed hour was close at hand, the stupid wretch, trembling from head to foot, was taken into a balcony by his mother to see the atrocious work begun. The moment the bell tolled, the murderers broke forth. During all that night, and the two next days, they broke into the houses, fired the houses, shot and stabbed the Protestants, men, women, and children, and flung their bodies into the streets. The victims were shot at in the streets as they passed along, and their blood ran down the gutters. Upwards of ten thousand Protestants were killed in Paris alone; in all France, four or five times that number.

4. To return thanks to God for these diabolical murders, the Pope and his train actually went in public procession at Rome; and, as if this were not shame enough for them, they had a medal struck to commemorate the event!

5. But, however comfortable the wholesale murders were to those high authorities, they had not that soothing effect upon the doll king. He never knew a moment's peace afterwards. He was continually crying out that he saw the Huguenots covered with blood and wounds falling dead before him. He died within a year, shrieking and yelling and raving to that degree that if all the popes who had ever lived had been rolled into one, they could not have afforded His guilty Majesty the slightest consolation.

LESSON LI.

cy' press; *an evergreen tree.*
glades; *openings through the*
woods.
deem; *think.*
steeds; *spirited horses.*

Barb; *a horse of Barbary*
stock.
hoar' y; *white with age.*
Brit' on; *a native of Great*
Britain.

SONG OF MARION'S MEN.

1. Our band is few but true and tried,
Our leader frank and bold;
The British soldier trembles
When Marion's name is told.
Our fortress is the good greenwood,
Our tent the cypress tree;
We know the forest round us,
As seamen know the sea.
We know its walls of thorny vines,
Its glades of reedy grass,
Its safe and silent islands
Within the dark morass.
2. Woe to the English soldiery
That little dread us near!
On them shall light, at midnight,
A strange and sudden fear:
When, waking to their tents on fire,
They grasp their arms in vain,
And they who stand to face us
Are beat to earth again;
And they who fly in terror deem
A mighty host behind,
And hear the tramp of thousands
Upon the hollow wind.
3. Well knows the fair and friendly moon
The band that Marion leads,
The glitter of their rifles,
The scampering of their steeds.
'Tis life to guide the fiery Barb
Across the moonlight plain;
'Tis life to feel the night wind
That lifts his tossing mane,
A moment in the British camp,
A moment and away,
Back to the pathless forest,
Before the peep of day.

4. Grave men there are by broad Santee,
 Grave men with hoary hairs;
 Their hearts are all with Marion,
 For Marion are their prayers.
 And lovely ladies greet our band
 With kindest welcoming,
 With smiles like those of summer,
 And tears like those of spring.
 For them we wear these trusty arms,
 And lay them down no more,
 Till we have driven the Briton
 Forever from our shore.

LESSON LII.

re priev'e'; *delay of punishment.*

gift; *present.*

pal'sy; *paralyze.*

blanched; *pale.*

en' vel ope; *wrapper.*

lug' gage; *baggage.*

twi' light; *time before sunrise and after sunset.*

de' pot (de' po); *railway station.*

an nounce' ment; *notice.*

cul' pa ble; *punishable.*

ap prove'; *consent to.*

in' ter view; *conversation.*

fer' vent ly; *earnestly.*

THE SOLDIER'S REPRIEVE.

1. "I thought, Mr. Allen, when I gave my Bennie to his country, that not a father in all this broad land made so precious a gift — no, not one. This dear boy slept only a minute, just one little minute, at his post; I know that was all, for Bennie never dozed over a duty. How prompt and reliable he was! I know he fell asleep only a second — he was so young, and not strong, that boy of mine. Why, he was as tall as I, and only eighteen! And now they shoot him because he was found asleep when doing sentinel duty. Twenty-four hours, the telegram said, only twenty-four hours. Where is Bennie now?"

2. "We will hope with his heavenly Father," said Mr. Allen, soothingly.

"Yes, yes; let us hope; God is very merciful."

"I should be ashamed, father!" Bennie said, "when I am a man, to think that I never used this great right arm"—and he held it out so proudly before me—"for my country when it needed it! Palsy it rather than keep it at the plow!"

"Go, then, go, my boy," I said, "and God keep you!" God *has* kept him, I think, Mr. Allen!" and the farmer repeated these last words slowly, as if, in spite of his reason, his heart doubted them.

"Like the apple of His eye, Mr. Owen, doubt it not!"

3. Blossom had sat near them listening, with blanched cheek. She had not shed a tear. Her anxiety had been so concealed that no one had noticed it. She had occupied herself mechanically in the household cares. Now she answered a gentle tap at the kitchen door, opening it to receive from a neighbor's hand a letter. "It is from *him*," was all she said.

4. It was like a message from the dead! Mr. Owen took the letter, but could not break the envelope on account of his trembling fingers, and held it toward Mr. Allen, with the helplessness of a child.

The minister opened it and read as follows: "Dear Father: When this reaches you, I shall be in eternity. At first it seemed awful to me, but I have thought about it so much now that it has no terror. They say they will not bind me, nor blind me, but that I may meet my death like a man. I thought, father, it might have been on the battlefield, for my country, and that, when I fell, it would be fighting gloriously; but to be shot down like a dog for nearly betraying it,—to die for neglect of duty!—oh, father, I wonder the very thought does not

kill me! But I shall not disgrace *you*. I am going to write you all about it, and when I am gone, you may tell my comrades. I cannot now.

5. "You know I promised Jemmie Carr's mother I would look after her boy; and, when he fell sick, I did all I could for him. He was not strong when he was ordered back into the ranks, and the day before *that* night I carried all his luggage, besides my own, on our march. Toward night we went in on doublequick, and though the luggage began to feel very heavy, everybody else was tired, too; and, as for Jemmie, if I had not lent him an arm now and then, he would have dropped by the way. I was tired all out when we came into camp, and then it was Jemmie's turn to be sentry, and I *would* take his place; but I was too tired, father. I could not have kept awake if a gun had been pointed at my head; but I did not know it until — well, until it was *too late*."

6. "God be thanked!" interrupted Mr. Owen, reverently. "I knew Bennie was not the boy to sleep carelessly at his post."

"They tell me to-day that I have a short reprieve, — given to me by circumstances, — 'time to write to you,' our good colonel says. Forgive him, father, he does only his duty; he would gladly save me if he could; and do not lay my death up against Jemmie. The poor boy is broken-hearted, and does nothing but beg and entreat them to let *him* die in my stead.

7. "I can't bear to think of mother and Blossom. Comfort them, father! Tell them I die as a brave boy should, and that, when the war is over, they will not be ashamed of me, as they *must* be now. God help me; it is very hard to bear! Good-by, father! God seems near and dear to me, not at all as if He wished me to perish forever, but as if He felt sorry for His poor, sinful,

broken-hearted child, and would take me to be with Him in a better, better life."

8. "Amen," said Mr. Owen, solemnly, "Amen."

"To-night, in the early twilight, I shall see the cows all coming home from pasture, and precious little Blossom standing on the back stoop waiting for me. But I shall never, never come! God bless you all! Forgive your poor Bennie!"

9. Late that night the door of the "back stoop" opened softly, and a little girl glided out, and went down the footpath that led to the road by the mill. She seemed rather to fly than to walk, turning her head neither to the right nor to the left, looking only now and then to heaven, and folding her hands as if in prayer. Two hours later the same young girl stood at the Mill Depot, watching the coming of the night train; and the conductor, as he reached down to lift her into the car, wondered at the tear-stained face that was upturned toward the dim lantern he held in his hand.

10. A few questions and ready answers told him all; and no father could have cared more tenderly for his only child than he for our little Blossom. She was on the way to Washington to ask President Lincoln for her brother's life. She had stolen away, leaving only a note to tell where and why she had gone. She had brought Bennie's letter with her; no good, kind heart like the President's would refuse to be melted by it. The next morning they reached New York, and the conductor hurried her on to Washington. Every minute, now, might be the means of saving her brother's life. And so, in an incredibly short time, Blossom reached the capital, and hastened immediately to the White House.

11. As though God Himself would pave the way for the loving sister, no one interrupted her course when she

entered the President's mansion. The President had just seated himself to his morning task of looking over and signing important papers, when, without one word of announcement, the door softly opened, and Blossom, with downcast eyes and folded hands, stood before him. ✓

12. "Well, my child," he said in his pleasant, cheerful tones, "what do you want so bright and early in the morning?"

"Bennie's life, please, sir," faltered Blossom.

"Bennie? Who is Bennie?"

"My brother, sir. They are going to shoot him for sleeping at his post."

13. "O yes," and Mr. Lincoln ran his eye over the papers before him. "I remember! It was a fatal sleep. You see, child, it was at a time of special danger. Thousands of lives might have been lost for his culpable negligence."

"So my father said," replied Blossom, gravely; "but poor Bennie was so tired, sir, and Jemmie so weak. He did the work of two, sir, and it was Jemmie's night, not his; but Jemmie was too tired, and Bennie never thought about *himself*, that he was tired, too."

"What is this you say, child? Come here; I do not understand," and the kind man caught eagerly, as ever, at what seemed to be a justification of an offense.

14. Blossom went to him. He put his hand tenderly on her shoulder, and turned up the pale, anxious face toward his. How tall he seemed, and he was President of the United States, too! A dim thought of this kind passed for a moment through Blossom's mind; but she told her simple and straightforward story, and handed Mr. Lincoln Bennie's letter to read.

He read it carefully; then, taking up his pen, wrote a few hasty lines and rang his bell.

Blossom heard this order given: "SEND THIS DISPATCH AT ONCE."

15. The President then turned to the girl and said: "Go home, my child, and tell your father, who could approve his country's sentence even when it took the life of a child like that, that Abraham Lincoln thinks the life far too precious to be lost. Go back, or — wait until tomorrow: Bennie will need a change after he has so bravely faced death; he shall go with you."

"God bless you, sir," said Blossom, — and who shall doubt that God heard that prayer?

16. Two days after this interview the young soldier came to the White House with his little sister. He was called into the President's private room, and a strap was fastened upon his shoulder. Mr. Lincoln then said: "The soldier that could carry a sick comrade's baggage and die for the act so uncomplainingly, deserves well of his country." Then Bennie and Blossom took their way to their Green Mountain home.

17. A crowd had gathered at the Mill Depot to welcome them both back, and as Farmer Owen's hand grasped that of his boy, tears flowed down his cheeks, and he said fervently, "*The Lord be praised!*"

LESSON LIII.

coy' o te (ki' o te); *prairie*
wolf.

slim; *slender.*

sags; *hangs, settles.*

fur' tive; *thievish.*

slink' ing; *sneaking.*

al' le go ry; *image.*

fleas; *a class of insects.*

ve loc' i pede; *bicycle.*

sage; *a plant.*

ate; *cautious.*

blends; *mingles.*

de ceit' ful; *misleading.*

fraud' ful; *deceitful.*

fren' zy; *madness.*

wake; *track.*

ag' gra va ted; *irritated.*

in censed'; *enraged.*

slack' en; *lessen.*

con cen' tra ted; *collected.*

spurt; *sudden effort.*

bland' ly; *mildly.*

THE COYOTE.

1. The coyote of the farther deserts is a long, slim, sick, and sorry-looking skeleton with a gray wolf-skin stretched over it, a tolerably bushy tail that forever sags down, with a despairing expression of forsakenness and misery, a furtive and evil eye, and a long, sharp face, with slightly lifted lip and exposed teeth.

2. He has a general slinking expression all over. The coyote is a living, breathing allegory of want. He is always hungry. He is always poor, out of luck, and friendless. The meanest creatures look down upon him, and even the fleas would desert him for a velocipede. He is so spiritless and cowardly that, even while his exposed teeth are pretending a threat, the rest of his face is apologizing for it. And he is so homely, so lean, and ribby, and coarse-haired, and pitiful!

3. When he sees you, he lifts his lip and lets a flash of his teeth out, and then turns a little out of the course he was pursuing, depresses his head a bit, and strikes a long, soft-footed trot through the sagebrush, glancing over his shoulder at you from time to time, till he is about out of easy pistol range, and then he stops and takes a deliberate survey of you. He will trot fifty yards, and stop again: another fifty, and stop again: and, finally, the gray of his gliding body blends with the gray of the sagebrush, and he disappears.

4. But if you start a swift-footed dog after him, you will enjoy it ever so much — especially if it is a dog that has a good opinion of himself, and has been brought up to think that he knows something about speed. The coyote will go swinging gently off on that deceitful trot of his, and every little while he will smile a fraudulent smile over his shoulder that will fill that dog entirely full of — r-

agement and worldly ambition, and make him lay his head still lower to the ground, and stretch his neck farther to the front, and pant more fiercely, and move his furious legs with a yet wilder frenzy, and leave a broader and broader and higher and denser cloud of desert sand smoking behind, and marking his long wake across the level plain! ✓

5. All this time the dog is only a short twenty feet behind the coyote, and, to save the life of him, he cannot understand why it is that he cannot get perceptibly closer; and he begins to get aggravated, and it makes him madder and madder to see how gently the coyote glides along, and never pants or sweats or ceases to smile; and he grows still more and more incensed to see how shamefully he has been taken in by an entire stranger, and what an ignoble swindle that long, calm, soft-footed trot is.

6. And next the dog notices that he is getting tired, and that the coyote actually has to slacken speed a little to keep from running away from him. And then that town dog is mad in earnest, and he begins to strain and weep and paw the sand higher than ever, and reach for the coyote with concentrated and desperate energy.

7. This spurt finds him six feet behind the gliding enemy, and two miles from his friends. And then, in the instant that a wild new hope is lighting up his face, the coyote turns and smiles blandly upon him once more, and with a something about it which seems to say:

8. "Well, I shall have to tear myself away from you, but—business is business, and it will not do for me to be fooling along this way all day." And forthwith there is a rushing sound, and the sudden splitting of a long crack through the atmosphere; and behold, that dog is solitary and alone in the midst of a vast solitude!

LESSON LIV.

rug' ged; *rough*.leg' end; *story concerning*
saints.jo' vi al; *merry, jolly*.ac curs' ed; *hateful, doomed*
to destruction.por tents'; *omens of ill*.bal' lads; *sentimental songs*.rein; *the straps of a bridle*.gal' lant ly; *bravely*.serf; *servant*.de fi' ance; *daring*.

A LEGEND OF BREGENZ.

1. Girt round with rugged mountains,
The fair Lake Constance lies;
In her blue heart reflected,
Shine back the starry skies.
2. Midnight is there, and Silence,
Enthroned in Heaven, looks down
Upon her own calm mirror,
Upon a sleeping town:
3. For Bregenz, that quaint city
Upon the Tyrol shore,
Has stood above Lake Constance
A thousand years and more.
4. Mountain and lake and valley
A sacred legend know
Of how the town was saved one night
Three hundred years ago.
5. Far from her home and kindred
A Tyrol maid had fled,
To serve in the Swiss valleys,
And toil for daily bread.
6. And every year that fled
So silently and fast
Seemed to bear farther from her
The memory of the past.
7. She spoke no more of Bregenz
With longing and with tears;
Her Tyrol home seemed faded
In a deep mist of years.

8. Yet when her master's children
 Would clustering round her stand,
She sang them ancient ballads
 Of her own native land;
9. And when at morn and evening
 She knelt before God's throne,
The accents of her childhood
 Rose to her lips alone.
10. And so she dwelt: the valley
 More peaceful year by year;
When suddenly strange portents*
 Of some great deed seemed near.
11. One day, out in the meadow,
 With strangers from the town
Some secret plan discussing,
 The men walked up and down.
12. At eve they all assembled;
 Then care and doubt were fled;
With jovial laugh they feasted;
 The board was nobly spread.
13. The elder of the village
 Rose up, his glass in hand,
And cried, "We drink the downfall
 Of an accursed land!
14. "The night is growing darker;
 Ere one more day is flown,
Bregenz, our foeman's stronghold,
 Bregenz shall be our own!"
15. The women shrank in terror
 (Yet Pride, too, had her part),
But one poor Tyrol maiden
 Felt death within her heart.

* In poetry frequently por'tents.

16. Nothing she heard around her
 (Though shouts rang forth again),
 Gone were the green Swiss valleys,
 The pasture and the plain.
17. Before her eyes one vision,
 And in her heart one cry
 That said, "Go forth! Save Bregenz,
 And then, if need be, die!"
18. With trembling haste and breathless,
 With noiseless step, she sped;
 Horses and weary cattle
 Were standing in the shed.
19. She loosed the strong white charger
 That fed from out her hand;
 She mounted, and she turned his head
 Toward her native land.
20. Out — out into the darkness —
 Faster, and still more fast; —
 The smooth grass flies behind her,
 The chestnut wood is passed.
21. She looks up; clouds are heavy;
 Why is her steed so slow?
 Scarcely the wind beside them
 Can pass them as they go.
22. "Faster!" she cries, "oh, faster!"
 Eleven the church bells chime;
 "O God," she cries, "help Bregenz,
 And bring me there in time!"
23. But louder than bells' ringing,
 Or lowing of the kine,
 Grows nearer in the midnight
 The rushing of the Rhine.
24. She strives to pierce the blackness,
 And looser throws the rein;
 Her steed must breast the waters
 That dash above his mane.

25. How gallantly, how nobly,
He struggles through the foam,
And see — in the far distance
Shine out the lights of home!
26. Up the steep bank he bears her,
And now they rush again
Towards the heights of Bregenz
That tower above the plain.
27. They reach the gates of Bregenz
Just as the midnight rings,
And out came serf and soldier
To meet the news she brings.
28. Bregenz is saved! Ere daylight
Her battlements are manned;
Defiance greets the army
That marches on the land.
29. Three hundred years are vanished,
And yet upon the hill
An old stone gateway rises
To do her honor still.
30. And there, when Bregenz women
Sit spinning in the shade,
They see in quaint ^{old} carving
The charger and the maid.
31. And when, to guard old Bregenz
By gateway, street, and tower,
The ^{guard} warder paces all night long
And calls each passing hour,
32. "Nine!" "ten!" "eleven!" he cries aloud,
And then (O crown of fame!),
When midnight passes in the skies,
He calls the maiden's name!

LESSON LV.

| | |
|---|--|
| res'i dent; <i>not migrating.</i> | ca pac'i ty; <i>room or space.</i> |
| pu' pae; <i>insects in the third form</i> | chips; <i>small pieces.</i> |
| of their existence. | ex ca va't ion; <i>a hollowing.</i> |
| dap' pled; <i>spotted.</i> | de tec' tion; <i>discovery.</i> |
| ar rayed'; <i>adorned, clothed.</i> | o ol' o gist; <i>one who is familiar</i> |
| wend' ing; <i>directing.</i> | <i>with the science of eggs.</i> |
| lawns; <i>grassy spaces around</i> | an noy' ing; <i>troublesome.</i> |
| <i>houses.</i> | a part' ment; <i>room.</i> |
| sex' es; <i>males and females.</i> | set' ting; <i>eggs hatched by one</i> |
| ex plo ra' tions; <i>investigations.</i> | <i>bird at once.</i> |
| sèm' i cir cle; <i>half of a circle.</i> | so' ber; <i>calm.</i> |
| com mend' a ble; <i>praiseworthy.</i> | fare; <i>food.</i> |
| an' nu al ly; <i>yearly.</i> | |

THE DOWNY WOODPECKER.

1. The downy woodpecker is a resident rather than a migratory bird, and is known to breed wherever it is found. Its area of distribution extends from Texas northward to the 58th degree of latitude.

2. In the autumnal and winter months, these birds lead solitary lives. Go where we will then, we may here and there behold single individuals busily examining the bark of trees for the eggs and pupæ of insects. Even the mature forms are not spared by the hungry birds.

3. Though rarely observed in cultivated districts during these times, yet a visit to the woods will reveal many a little fellow in dappled dress arrayed with or without a crown of red, wending his slow and labored flight from tree to tree, or waking the clear echoes of rock and shady glen with his shrill music and lively drumming.

4. But when fragrant Spring returns and peoples our shade and fruit trees with countless insects, then quits he the wild forests and betakes himself to our lawns and orchards.

5. The sexes no longer shun each other as before, but mingle in the most friendly manner. During the first week

in May the flocks usually break up in pairs. Having mated, the pairs start off together in search of a nesting place.

6. The selection of a site is a matter of no little importance, the greater part of a week being consumed in making the necessary explorations. These commence early in the morning, and continue with but few interruptions until the close of the day.

7. If a suitable situation is discovered, building operations are begun. In cultivated grounds, a decayed branch of the apple or cherry tree is chosen for this purpose; but in more retired situations, the maple, ash, elm, or bass-wood are given the preference. In the Southern States, nest building commences about the middle of April, and, in the extreme northerly portions of its habitat, about the fifteenth of June.

8. All things being in readiness, the male is the first to begin operations. Stationing himself upon the spot which is to constitute the doorway of his home, with claws imbedded in the wood to prevent himself from falling, he digs the bark away in the form of a semicircle. Then reversing his position, he goes through the same difficult but trying task, his little bill his only implement of execution, until he has wrought a perfect circle. Continuing the labor, he digs away into the interior until an inch or more of the wood has yielded to the blows of his small but powerful chisel. Tired, at last, he resigns the work to his companion, and settles himself upon a branch close by to rest. Having recovered his exhausted energies, he starts off in search of food, but to return in the course of a half hour to the relief of the female. Thus the work goes on, day after day, with an industry and patience truly commendable, until success crowns the undertaking.

9. The opening to the chamber is perfectly circular, and quite as correct as a skillful mechanic could make it

with compasses. The cavity is first directed downwards at an angle of forty degrees, for the space of five inches, when it takes a vertical course for nearly ten inches farther, widening perceptibly at the bottom. Such is the capacity of the latter that the sitting bird is able to turn around therein with considerable ease; but the external opening is just large enough to admit the body of herself or partner.

10. Few species are more careful to direct attention from the scene of their labors than the subject of our lesson. The chips produced during the work of excavation are usually carried to some distance, so as to remove all traces that might lead to detection. But howsoever secretly they may act, and whatever precaution they may exercise, their home does not always escape the keen eye of the experienced oölogist, or the sharpness or sagacity of the little house wren — one of the most annoying enemies with which it has to contend.

11. Wilson gives an interesting account of the impudent coolness of this bird, who, desiring the neatly built home of this woodpecker, and powerless to construct such an apartment for herself, waits until the woodpeckers have finished their work, when she attacks them with violence, and drives them out of the nest which they have prepared with so much pains.

12. Having constructed their home, which is usually the work of a week, the female, after a day of rest, begins the labor of laying the eggs. This continues for four or six days, the time being regulated by the number of eggs which are to constitute a setting, but a single egg being deposited daily.

13. Incubation now follows, and is the exclusive task of the female for nearly twelve days. The male, although he takes no direct part in this business, is an important

factor in the successful accomplishment of the undertaking, as he, like an affectionate and dutiful husband, supplies her with the necessary food. When not thus occupied, he may be seen foraging the fields and woods, or perched upon a twig in the calm enjoyment of ease and sober thought. He is seldom to be observed in the immediate vicinity of the nest, save when carrying food to his mate, or in times of great calamity.

14. The young, when first hatched, are very helpless creatures, and require the greatest care and attention from parental hands, so to speak. Caterpillars, small moths, and beetles constitute the bulk of their fare, from the time they leave the egg until they are four weeks old, when they quit the nest, to be instructed in the ways of the outside world. For a fortnight the young birds rove in company, but finally separate, each bird leading the life of a hermit.

15. The eggs of this species of woodpecker are nearly spherical, of a crystalline whiteness, and measure eight tenths of an inch in length, and seven tenths of an inch in width. In the southern and middle portions of the range of this woodpecker, two broods are annually raised, one in June, and the other in August, but farther north seldom more than one.

LESSON LVI.

ca'ble gram; *ocean telegram.*

spoils; *things taken from an enemy.*

is'sue; *outcome.*

in cal'cu la ble; *beyond calculation.*

an'ces try; *forefathers.*

ca det'; *military student.*

lieu ten'ant; *officer next to the captain.*

com mis'sion; *appointment.*

ef fi' cien cy; *competency.*

cred'it; *praise.*

ac'cu ra cy; *exactness.*

com'pli ments; *expressions of praise.*

at trib'u ted; *ascribed.*

de feat'; *loss, reverses.*

dis'ci pline; *training.*

e quipped'; *fitted out.*

com mod'i ties; *conveniences.*

GEORGE DEWEY, THE AMERICAN HERO IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

1. Nearly thirty years of peace had reigned in American quarters, when a command was given to an American squadron to fight. An eight-word cablegram was forwarded to Commodore Dewey April 25, 1898, reading, "Capture or destroy the Spanish squadron at Manila." These instructions were so effectually carried out that within seven hours after arriving at the Philippine Islands nothing remained to be done. May 1, 1898, Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet at Manila, without the loss of a ship or a man from his squadron. This victory carries with it spoils of war probably larger than ever before decided by the issues of one battle. The future value and influence of this conquest are incalculable.

2. George Dewey was born on December 26, 1837, in Montpelier, Vermont. The Dewey family dates its ancestry back to colonial times. After a course in the Northfield Military School of Massachusetts, George was appointed a cadet to Annapolis at the age of seventeen, where he graduated in 1858. When the Civil War broke out, young Dewey was made a lieutenant, and assigned to duty on the steam-sloop *Mississippi*. This ship was in Farragut's squadron, which forced a passage up the Mississippi River in 1862. This was Dewey's first experience in real war. After serving on several other gunboats, he was intrusted with the command of the warships *Kearsarge* and *Colorado*. He rose to the position of Lieutenant-Commander in 1865, and during his five years' charge of the *Narragansett* received his commission as Commander.

3. In January, 1898, he was given command of the Asiatic squadron at Hong-Kong, China. He had been but a few weeks in his new position, when the United

States of America declared war with Spain. Just six days after the declaration of war, Dewey fell upon and annihilated the Spanish fleet and forts at Manila, May 1, 1898, destroying eleven Spanish vessels, killing and wounding about one thousand of the enemy, and that without losing one man and without serious damage to one of his ships.

4. The Spanish officers admitted that they were out-matched in strength and efficiency by the American fleet. They also gave due credit to the rapidity and accuracy of Dewey's fire. The day after the battle Admiral Montojo sent Commodore Dewey his compliments on the American marksmanship, declaring he had never witnessed such rapid and accurate firing. In return, Dewey praised the bravery of the Spaniards and attributed their defeat to inferior ships.

5. When official reports of the battle at Manila were received at Washington, President McKinley said: "It is the triumph of a just cause by the grace of God." Commodore Dewey was appointed a Rear-Admiral in the United States Navy. The battle of Manila proved the daring and courage of Admiral Dewey, his forethought, cool, well-balanced judgment, discipline, and bravery. Dewey entered with his war-ships an unknown harbor, which was strewn with deadly mines, and blew up the Spanish navy that was protected by the guns of the shore batteries. He not only sank the vessels, but he silenced those batteries. His name was honored whenever mentioned in all parts of the country as that of a naval hero.

6. Dewey returned home in October, 1899, on his flagship *Olympia*. A princely reception was given him on his arrival at New York. The nation's gift and gratification was a splendid home in the city of Washington furnished and equipped with all commodities of the time.

LESSON LVII.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| save; <i>except.</i> | re signed'; <i>submissive.</i> |
| a loft'; <i>on high.</i> | un daunt'ed; <i>fearless.</i> |
| rout; <i>an uproar, a noise.</i> | en fold'ing; <i>embracing.</i> |
| be tide'; <i>happen.</i> | ho!; <i>an exclamation.</i> |
| rav'age; <i>ruin, destruction.</i> | lee; <i>side which is sheltered</i> |
| wreaths; <i>curls.</i> | <i>from the wind.</i> |
| huz za'; <i>hurrah!</i> | |

THE BURNING SHIP.

The storm o'er the ocean flew furious and fast,
 And the waves rose in foam at the voice of the blast,
 And heavily labored the gale-beaten ship,
 Like a stout-hearted swimmer, the spray at his lip;
 And dark was the sky o'er the mariner's path,
 Save when by the lightning illumined in wrath.
 A young mother knelt in the cabin below,
 And pressing her babe to her bosom of snow,
 She prayed to her God, 'mid the hurricane wild,
 "O Father, have mercy, look down on my child!"

It passed,—the fierce whirlwind careered on its way,
 And the ship like an arrow dividèd the spray;
 Her sails glimmered white in the beams of the moon,
 And the wind up aloft seemed to whistle a tune.

There was joy in the ship as she furrowed the foam.
 For fond hearts within her were dreaming of home.
 The young mother pressed her fond babe to her breast,
 And the husband sat cheerily down by her side,
 And looked with delight on the face of his bride.
 "O, happy!" said he, "when our roaming is o'er,
 We'll dwell in our cottage that stands by the shore.
 Already in fancy its roof I descry,
 And the smoke of its hearth curling up to the sky;

Its garden so green, and its vine-covered wall;
The kind friends awaiting to welcome us all,
And the children that sport by the old oaken tree."
Ah, gently the ship glided over the sea!

Hark! what was that? Hark! hark to the shout!
"Fire!" Then a tramp and a rout,
And a tumult of voices uprose on the air;—
And the mother knelt down, and the half-spoken prayer
That she offered to God in her agony wild
Was, "Father, have mercy, look down on my child!"
She flew to her husband, she clung to his side,
Oh, there was her refuge whate'er might betide.
"Fire! fire!" It was raging above and below;—
And the cheeks of the sailors grew pale at the sight,
And their eyes glistened wild in the glare of the light.
'Twas vain o'er the ravage the waters to drip;
The pitiless flame was the lord of the ship,
And the smoke in thick wreaths mounted higher and
higher.

"O God, it is fearful to perish by fire!"
Alone with destruction, alone on the sea,
"Great Father of mercy, our hope is in Thee."
Sad at heart and resigned, yet undaunted and brave,
They lowered the boat, a mere speck on the wave.
First entered the mother, enfolding her child:
It knew she caressed it, looked upward and smiled.
Cold, cold was the night as they drifted away,
And mistily dawned o'er the pathway the day;—
And they prayed for the light, and at noontide about
The sun o'er the waters shone joyously out.

"Ho! a sail! Ho! a sail!" cried the man at the lee,
"Ho! a sail!" and they turned their glad eyes o'er the sea.
"They see us, they see us, the signal is waved!
They bear down upon us, they bear down upon us:
Huzza! we are saved!"

LESSON LVIII.

ru'mi na ting; *cud chewing.*
 musk deer; *a small Eastern*
deer.

a bound'; *are plentiful.*

gre ga'ri ous; *living in herds*
or flocks.

per sim'mons; *a plumlike*
fruit.

pi o neer'; *first settler.*

pan'thers; *American moun-*
-tain lions.

re lent'less; *unpitying.*

e ludes'; *escapes.*

punt; *canoe.*

bow (bou); *stem of a ship.*

sight; *piece of metal on a gun to*
guide the eye.

squat'ting; *crouching.*

muf'fled; *wrapped.*

op por tu'ni ty; *favorable chance.*

un sports'man like; *opposed to the*
usage of hunters.

pro ce'dure; *proceeding.*

pro hib'it ed; *forbidden.*

leg'is la tures; *lawmaking bodies.*

run'ways; *beaten paths.*

THE DEER.

1. The deer family, a family of ruminating animals, embraces a great variety of species, ranging in size from the pigmy musk deer of Java, which is not larger than a hare and weighs only five or six pounds, to the gigantic moose of America, whose height is seven or eight feet and whose weight is twelve hundred pounds. But the species with which American hunters are most practically concerned, are the common red or Virginia deer, and the black-tailed deer of the region west of the Mississippi. These species differ but little in habits and general characteristics, and a description of the Virginia deer is sufficient for our purpose.

2. The Virginia deer are found in nearly all the states of the Union east of the Rocky Mountains, and abound in both provinces of Canada. They are gregarious, though frequently seen alone. Their food in summer consists of twigs, grass, berries, nuts, roots, persimmons, etc., and at that season they frequent rivers and lakes to feed on water plants, as well as for the purpose of freeing them-

selves from insect pests. They are also fond of visiting the pioneer's clearing, appropriating his wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, turnips, and cabbage.

3. In winter they retire to the elevated ridges, where maple and other hard-wood trees abound, the bark, twigs, and branches of which are at that season their chief support. They form "yards" by trampling down the deep snow, and live together in large herds, numbering sometimes thirty animals in a single "yard." These enclosures are enlarged from time to time as the deer require more trees for browsing. Wolves and panthers are their most formidable enemies — excepting man. Packs of wolves frequently attack them in their "yards," and sometimes, when the snow is deep and crusted over, whole herds are destroyed. ✓

4. Wolves sometimes pursue a single deer with the "long chase." In summer a deer thus pursued generally takes to the water, and so baffles his relentless pursuers; but in winter, when the streams and lakes are frozen over, he rarely eludes them. Panthers take deer by crawling within springing distance of them in their "yards" or elsewhere, or by watching and pouncing on them from some cliff or tree as they pass below.

5. The methods by which men take deer are various. They are sometimes driven by dogs into rivers or lakes, and are then overtaken and dispatched by the hunter in his punt. A favorite method is to shoot them at night at the places by the waterside, where they resort to feed on aquatic plants and relieve themselves of insects. For this purpose the hunter equips himself with a boat, gun, and lamp. The light is set on the bow of the boat, so that it will shine on the forward sight of the rifle, and at the same time conceal by its glare the hunter squatting behind.

6. With muffled oar the boat approaches the game. The reflected gleams from the eyes of the deer betray its position to the hunter. If no noise is made, the victim will stand and gaze at the light until it is within a few yards, and so give a sure opportunity for the fatal shot. Many are taken in this way in the early autumn; and later in the season, when snow first comes, many more are taken by the "still hunt," either by following on their trail, or by watching at their runways.

LESSON LIX.

gran' a ries; *corn-houses.*
 beg' gared; *reduced to extreme*
poverty.
 sor' did; *greedy.*
 pro pen' si ties; *inclinations.*

pre sent' ed; *showed.*
 lav' ish; *prodigal, wasteful.*
 su per flu' i ties; *things be-*
yond one's needs.
 Al might' y; *a name for God.*
 suc' cor; *assistance.*

THE GENEROUS RUSSIAN PEASANT.

1. It is impossible, even at this distant period, to reflect without horror on the miseries of that year known in the regions about the lower Volga by the name of the "famine year." I remember the summer whose scorching heats had dried up all the fields, and in which the drought had no relief but from the tears of the ruined farmer.

2. In those days I lived on an estate not far from Simbirsk; and though but a child then, I have not forgotten the impression made on my mind by the general calamity.

3. In a village adjoining lived Flor Silin, a poor, laboring peasant: a man remarkable for his assiduity, and the skill and judgment with which he cultivated his

* This unfair and unsportsmanlike, though fascinating, procedure in securing deer is now prohibited by the legislatures of nearly all our states.

lands. He was blessed with abundant crops, and, his means being larger than his wants, his granaries, even at this time, were full of corn. The dry year had beggared all the village except himself. Here was an opportunity to grow rich. Mark how Flor Silin acted. Having called the poorest of his neighbors about him, he addressed them in the following manner:

4. "My friends, you want corn for your subsistence. God has blessed me with abundance. Assist in thrashing out a quantity, and each of you take what he wants for his family." The peasants were amazed at this unexampled generosity; for sordid propensities exist in the village as well as in the populous city.

5. The fame of Flor Silin's benevolence having reached other villages, the famished inhabitants presented themselves before him, and begged for corn. This good creature received them as brothers, and, while his store remained, afforded all relief. At length, his wife, seeing no end to the generosity of his noble spirit, reminded him how necessary it would be to think of their own wants, and hold his lavish hand before it was too late. "It is written in the Scripture," said he, "Give, and it shall be given unto you."

6. The following year God listened to the prayers of the poor, and the harvest was abundant. The peasants who had been saved from starving by Flor Silin now gathered around him.

7. "Behold," said they, "the corn you lent us. You saved our wives and children. We should have been famished but for you; may God reward you; He only can; all we have to give is our grateful thanks." "I want no corn at present, my good neighbors," said he; "my harvest has exceeded all my expectations: for the rest, thank God: I have been but a humble instrument."

8. They urged him in vain. "No," said he, "I shall not accept your corn. If you have superfluities, share them among your poor neighbors, who, being unable to sow their fields last autumn, are still in want; let us assist them, my dear friends; the Almighty will bless us for it." "Yes," replied the grateful peasants, "our poor neighbors shall have this corn. They shall know it is to you that they owe this timely succor." ✓
To help

LESSON LX.

ail'ing; *ill*.tend; *take care of*.

book'stall; bookstand.

pout'ed; *thrust out the lips*.grum'bling; *murmuring*.de lib'er ate ly; *with considera-
tion*.hu mil i a' tion; *the act of bringing down one's pride*.mel'an chol y; *sad*.sul'len; *angry*.smite; *strike*.pen'i tent; *sorrowing for sin*.be sought; *begged*.stub'born ness; *thickheaded-
ness*.

TWO SCENES IN THE LIFE OF A GREAT MAN.

SCENE FIRST.

1. "Sam," said Mr. Michael Johnson, of Lichfield, one morning, "I am very feeble and ailing to-day; you must go to Uttoxeter in my stead, and tend the bookstall in the market place there."

2. This was spoken, above a hundred years ago, by an elderly man, who had once been a thriving bookseller at Lichfield, England. Being now in reduced circumstances, he was forced to go every market day and sell books at a stall, in the neighboring village of Uttoxeter.

3. When Mr. Michael Johnson spoke, Sam pouted, and made an indistinct grumbling in his throat; then he looked his old father in the face, and answered him

loudly and deliberately, "Sir, I will not go to Uttoxeter market!"

4. "Well, Sam," said Mr. Johnson, as he took his hat and staff, "if, for the sake of your foolish pride, you can suffer your poor sick father to stand all day in the noise and confusion of the market when he ought to be in his bed, I have no more to say. But you will think of this, Sam, when I am dead and gone!"

5. So the poor old man, perhaps with a tear in his eye, certainly with sorrow in his heart, set forth towards Uttoxeter. The gray-haired, feeble, melancholy Michael Johnson! How sad a thing it was that he should be forced to go, in his sickness, and toil for the support of an ungrateful son, who was too proud to do anything for his father or his mother or himself!

6. Sam looked after Mr. Johnson with a sullen countenance till he was out of sight. But when the old man's figure, as he went stooping along the street, was no more to be seen, the boy's heart began to smite him.

7. He had a vivid imagination, and it tormented him with the image of his father standing in the market place of Uttoxeter and offering his books to the noisy crowd around him. ✓

8. "My poor father!" thought Sam to himself. "How his head will ache, and how heavy his heart will be! I am almost sorry that I did not do as he bade me!"

9. Then the boy went to his mother, who was busy about the house. She did not know of what had passed between her husband and son.

10. "Mother," said he, "did you think father seemed very ill to-day?"

11. "Yes, Sam," answered his mother, turning with a flushed face from the fire, where she was cooking their scanty dinner. "Your father did look very ill; and it

is a pity he did not send you to Uttoxeter in his stead. You are a large boy now, and would rejoice, I am sure, to do something for your poor father, who has done so much for you."

12. "Oh, I have been a cruel son!" thought Sam within his own heart. "God forgive me! God forgive me!"

13. But God could not yet forgive him; for he was not truly penitent. Had he been so, he would have hastened away that very moment to Uttoxeter, and have fallen at his father's feet, even in the midst of the crowded market place. There he would have confessed his fault, and besought Mr. Johnson to go home and leave the rest of the day's work to him.

14. But such was Sam's pride and stubbornness that he could not bring himself to this humiliation: yet he ought to have done so, for his own sake, for his father's sake, and for God's sake.

LESSON LXI.

| | |
|--|--|
| pup' pet show; <i>a play performed</i> | deemed; <i>thought.</i> |
| by dolls. | priv' i lege; <i>right.</i> |
| wig; <i>false hair.</i> | lit' er a ry re nown'; <i>fame as a</i> |
| gait; <i>manner of walking.</i> | writer. |
| in trude'; <i>to enter without per-</i> | pang; <i>agony.</i> |
| mission. | pen' ance; <i>a suffering for sin.</i> |
| thor' ough fare; <i>street.</i> | ad mon' ish es; <i>directs, advises.</i> |
| mut' tered; <i>murmured.</i> | er' ror; <i>sin.</i> |
| i' vy-man tled; <i>covered with ivy,</i> | re morse'; <i>gnawing pain excited</i> |
| <i>a creeping plant.</i> | by a sense of guilt. |
| mys te' ri ous; <i>curious.</i> | dic' tion a ry; <i>a book containing</i> |
| su per sti' tious; <i>believing in ab-</i> | <i>the words of a language with</i> |
| <i>surd trifles.</i> | <i>explanations of their mean-</i> |
| some' how; <i>one way or other.</i> | ings. |

TWO SCENES IN THE LIFE OF A GREAT MAN.

SCENE SECOND.

1. Fifty years had passed away. It was again market day in the village of Uttoxeter. The streets were crowded with buyers and sellers, with cows, pigs, carts, and horses. In one place there was a puppet show with an odd clown, who kept the people in a roar of laughter.

2. There was a clock in the gray tower of the ancient church, and its hands had now almost reached the hour of noon.

3. At this busiest hour of the market, a strange old gentleman was seen making his way among the crowd. He was very tall and bulky, and wore a brown coat and similar smallclothes, with black worsted stockings and buckled shoes. On his head was a three-cornered hat, beneath which a bushy gray wig thrust itself out, all in disorder.

4. The old gentleman elbowed the people aside, and forced his way through the midst of them with a singular gait, rolling his body hither and thither, so that he needed twice as much room as any other person there.

5. "Make way, sir!" he would cry out, in a loud, harsh voice, when somebody happened to interrupt his progress. "Sir, you intrude your person into the public thoroughfare!"

6. "What a queer old fellow this is!" muttered the people among themselves, hardly knowing whether to laugh or be angry.

7. But when they looked into the venerable stranger's face, not the most thoughtless among them dared to offer him the least rudeness. There was in his look something of authority and wisdom, which impressed them all with awe.

8. So they stood aside to let him pass; and the old gentleman made his way across the market place, and paused near the corner of the ivy-mantled church. Just as he reached it, the clock struck twelve.

9. On that very spot of ground where the stranger now stood some aged people remembered that old Michael Johnson had formerly kept his bookstall. The little children who had bought picture books of him now were grandfathers.

10. "Yes, here is the very spot," muttered the old gentleman to himself.

11. There this unknown person took his stand, and removed the three-cornered hat from his head. It was the busiest hour of the day. What with the hum of human voices, the lowing of cattle, the grunting of pigs, and the laughter caused by the clown, the place was in very great confusion.

12. But the stranger seemed not to notice it any more than if the silence of a desert were around him. He was rapt in his own thoughts.

13. Sometimes he raised his furrowed brow to heaven, as if in prayer; sometimes he bent his head, as if an insupportable weight of sorrow were upon him.

14. The hot sun blazed upon his unprotected head, but he seemed not to feel its heat. A dark cloud swept across the sky, and rain drops pattered in the market place; but the stranger heeded not the shower.

15. The people began to gaze at the mysterious old gentleman with superstitious fear and wonder. Who could he be? Whence did he come? Wherefore was he standing bareheaded in the market place? Even the schoolboys left the clown, and came to gaze with open eyes at this tall, strange-looking old man.

16. There was a cattle drover in the village who had recently made a journey to London. No sooner had this man thrust his way through the throng and taken a look at the unknown person than he whispered to one of his acquaintances. "I say, Neighbor Hutchins, would ye like to know who this old gentleman is?"

17. "Ay, that I would," replied Neighbor Hutchins; "for a queerer fellow I never saw in my life. Somehow it makes me feel small to look at him. He's more than a common man."

18. "You may well say so," answered the cattle dealer. "Why, that's the famous Doctor Samuel Johnson, who, they say, is the greatest and most learned man in England! I saw him in London streets, walking with one Mr. Boswell."

19. Yes: the poor boy — the friendless Sam — with whom we began our story had become the famous Doctor Samuel Johnson! He was universally acknowledged as the wisest man and greatest writer in England.

20. He had given shape and permanence to his native language by his dictionary. Thousands upon thousands of people had read his *Idler*, his *Rambler*, and his *Rasselas*. Noble and wealthy men and beautiful ladies deemed it their highest privilege to be his companions. Even the king of Great Britain had sought his acquaintance, and told him what an honor he considered it that such a man had been born in his dominions. He was now at the summit of literary renown.

21. But all his fame could not blot out the bitter remembrance which had tormented him through life. Never, never had he forgotten his father's sorrowful and upbraiding look. Never, though the father's troubles had been over so many years, had the son forgiven himself for inflicting such a pang upon his parent's heart.

22. And now, in his old age, he had come hither to do penance, by standing at noonday on the very spot where Michael Johnson had once kept his bookstall. We may hope that he also sought for forgiveness with God, and thus gained true peace of conscience.

23. My dear children, whenever you have sinned against your parents or have grieved the heart of any other human being, think of Samuel Johnson's penance, and remember that the Bible clearly admonishes you to redeem the error at once by saying, "I have erred — forgive me!" Thus, by the grace of God, you shall be spared the pangs of a remorse that may ultimately wring from you bitter though unavailing tears over the grave of the wronged one.

LESSON LXII.

cab' i net woods; *woods used in making fine furniture.*

ve neer'; *a thin layer.*

fer ment' ed; *chemically changed.*

al' co hol; *a liquid found in fermented sugar.*

wrin' kled; *furrowed.*

tri an' gu lar; *three-cornered.*

gau' cho; *a South American cow-boy.*

pith; *spongy center of the stem.*

gran' u la ted; *resembling grain.*

nar cot' ic; *having the power of rendering unconscious.*

stim' u lant; *anything that rouses the activity of the system or of a part of the system.*

un slaked' lime; *lime not yet mixed with water.*

rem' e dy; *medicine.*

en' ter prise; *energy in any undertaking.*

de vel' oped; *completed.*

li a' na; } *climbing plants.*
smi' lax; }

fa ri' na; } *articles of food.*
tap i o' ca; }

cin cho' na; } *tropical trees.*
sa' go palm; }
rose' wood; }

ma' te; } *drinks.*
choc' o late; }
ca ca' o; }

qui' nine; } *medicines.*
sar sa pa ril' la; }
co' ca ine; }

cas' sa va; } *plants.*
co' ca; }

FOREST LIFE OF SOUTH AMERICA.

1. The climate of South America is neither so extremely hot in the north nor so intensely cold in the south as one would be led to suppose from its geographical position. The burning heat felt in the plains of Arabia is wholly unknown. Throughout the basin of the Amazon the climate is greatly moderated by the breeze that is always blowing up the river. But in some places, where the dense forests keep away the breeze, it is almost stifling.

2. In almost every part of tropical South America vegetation is exhibited on its grandest scale. Along the streams reeds, grasses, and water plants grow in tangled masses and crowd each other in the struggle for life. In districts specially favored with their due share of heat and moisture, the variety and beauty of flowers are truly wonderful. But the most characteristic feature of the vegetation are the great forests.

3. The largest continuous mass of forest in the world is in the Amazon basin. The forests are so dense and full of underwood and the trees so laced together by lianas, or twining plants, that they are in many places impenetrable, and the animals which inhabit them find their way either among the branches or by narrow paths, which they keep open by constant use.

4. Travelers have always been struck by the immense variety of trees in these tropical forests; nearly two hundred kinds have been counted on a square mile in the Amazon valley. Some of the trees are of enormous size, the trunks being forty or fifty feet around, and the tops two hundred feet or more from the ground.

5. Cabinet woods of rich quality and great variety are found in South America. But owing to the scarcity of labor and the scanty means of transportation to the

seacoast, the lumber trade of South America is as yet not very extensive. The only one of the cabinet woods extensively exported is rosewood. It is of a deep ruddy brown color, and takes a fine polish. It is used both solid and in veneer, in the making of pianos and fine cabinet work.

6. But the Brazilian forests, however rich in timber, are richer still in gums, resins, drugs, and dyes. Brazil wood is a dark red or yellowish brown dyewood. The heartwood alone is of any value, and bears only a small proportion to the whole diameter of the stem. It is sent into market ground down to the size of ordinary sawdust. When treated with water or alcohol, it yields a red coloring matter, which is used by the dyer. It is also used in the manufacture of red ink. ✓

7. Among the most useful trees we must mention the Para rubber tree. It grows abundantly in the moist, steamy valleys of the Amazon and its branches. From it the best rubber is obtained, and the markets of the world are mainly supplied from it. The white sticky sap is collected by the Indians and dried and smoked into the tough, elastic substance called rubber, from which overshoes, boots, combs, balls, and many other goods are made. The art of manufacturing rubber is by no means of recent date. Columbus, on his second voyage, observed that the inhabitants of Hayti played a game with balls made "of the gum of a tree."

8. In the same region we find the magnificent Brazil nut tree, which attains a height of two hundred feet. It produces a large woody seed vessel almost as large as a child's head. At the time when this great fruit is ready to fall, it is dangerous to walk under the tree. The outer shell is very hard and solid, requiring the blow of a sledge hammer to break it. Within this shell is packed

together a number of the well-known nuts. They are wrinkled and triangular, having a hard shell and a pure white kernel. They yield a large quantity of oil, which is good for burning.

9. Among the South American trees cultivated for their fruit the coffee tree, although small in size, claims the first position. In its wild state it grows to the height of about twenty feet, but in cultivation it is kept down to ten or twelve feet for convenience in gathering the fruit. The coast region of Brazil south of Bahia is especially devoted to coffee culture. Each tree is supposed to yield annually on an average two pounds of coffee; but some yield as much as eight pounds. The coffee plant also flourishes in the shade of the Amazon forest. In the province of Para it is seen growing on almost every roadside or thicket. Three fourths of all the coffee consumed in the United States and over half of all that is used in the world is of Brazilian growth.

10. Cacao, or chocolate, is another valuable substance yielded by the seeds of small trees. When ripe, the fruit or pod is from seven to ten inches in length and three or four inches in diameter. Each fruit contains from twenty to forty seeds, which constitute the raw "cocoa beans" of commerce. The cacao tree was cultivated previous to the discovery of America. Pizarro found in the lower levels of Peru blooming plantations of cacao.

11. Vanilla, which yields a flavor used in the manufacture of chocolate, grows in the same region. It consists of the fermented and dried pods of the vanilla plant. The climbing stems bear pods which measure from six to twelve inches in length and about half an inch in diameter.

12. The South Americans also have a substitute for tea. It is called mate, or Paraguay tea, and consists of

the dried leaves of an evergreen shrub or small tree resembling the common holly. Persons who are fond of mate drink it before every meal. It is generally considered disagreeable by those unaccustomed to it, as it has a somewhat bitter taste. But the gaucho of the plains will travel on horseback for weeks, asking no better fare than dried beef washed down with ample drinks of mate, and for it he will give up any dainty, such as sugar, rice, or cake. ✓ *21 ed. Apr. 30, 1919.*

13. Another remarkable production of this region is the cow tree, the juice of which possesses many properties in common with milk, and is used instead of it.

14. Palms grow most abundantly near the rivers. Palm forests like those of Brazil and Venezuela are rarely found elsewhere. Among the most useful varieties are the cocoa and sago palms. The former furnish the cocoanuts, too well known to need description, while the pith of the latter is made into a granulated starch, called sago.

15. The cassava plant is a native of Brazil. It has a large and fleshy root. It is said that one acre of it affords as much nutriment as six acres of wheat. The farina prepared from it is a common article of food in all parts of Brazil. Tapioca is made from cassava starch.

16. Cinchona trees of several species occur along the eastern slopes of the Andes in the upper Amazonian forest. They are evergreen trees with laurellike leaves. The trees are felled as near the roots as possible, that none of the bark may be lost. The cinchona supplies the world with Peruvian bark and quinine.

17. A narcotic stimulant much used by the inhabitants of Peru and Bolivia are the coca leaves. The dried leaves are chewed with a little finely powdered unslaked lime, which the Peruvian Indian always carries with him in a small leather pouch. Coca is a powerful stimulant to the

nervous system: it enables fatigue to be borne with less nourishment and greater ease than ordinarily, and diminishes the difficulty of breathing in ascending mountains. When used in excess, it finally leads to a miserable ruin of both body and mind. Cocaine, a substance which is frequently applied by physicians in operations, is derived from coca leaves. Its application is entirely harmless.

18. Sarsaparilla, a well-known remedy, is prepared from the long fibrous roots of a species of smilax. The plants grow in swampy forests seldom visited by European travelers. The roots extend horizontally in the ground on all sides for about nine feet. The collection of sarsaparilla roots is therefore a very tiresome business, a single root taking an Indian more than half a day to unearth.

19. Recent researches show the forest region of South America to be a vast field for human enterprise. With the increase of population and the opening up of the country these natural advantages will be gradually developed. *✓ There*

LESSON LXIII.

dodg'ing; *sneaking*.
 im pu'ni ty; *freedom from punishment*.
 rag'ged; *wearing torn clothes*.
 lec'tures; *scoldings*.
 shrugged; *drew up*.
 sole; *only*.
 ram'ble; *roving*.
 mus'ing; *meditating*.
 heaved; *breathed, drew*.
 com plied'; *yielded*.
 nine'pins; *a game*.
 ap pre hen'sion; *fear*.
 bev'er age; *a drink*.
 pro voked'; *caused*.

fowl'ing piece; *a shotgun*.
 fire'lock; *an old-fashioned gun*.
 chins; *the parts below the mouth*.
 re cur'ence; *repetition*.
 in duced'; *caused*.
 mis gave'; *failed*.
 be witched'; *charmed as by magic*.
 sore'ly; *greatly*.
 be wil'dered; *perplexed*.
 i den'ti ty; *sameness*.
 tap; *strike gently*.
 air; *appearance*.
 ur'chins; *children*.
 gen er a'tion; *race*.

RIP VAN WINKLE.

1. Whoever has made a voyage up the Hudson must remember the Catskill Mountains. At the foot of these fairy mountains the voyager may have descried the light smoke curling up from a village whose shingle roofs gleam among the trees just where the blue tints of the upland melt away into the fresh green of the nearer landscape.

2. In that village, and in one of these very houses, there lived many years since, while the country was yet a province of Great Britain, a simple, good-natured fellow, of the name of Rip Van Winkle.

3. Whenever he went dodging about the village, he was surrounded by a troop of children, hanging on his skirts, climbing on his back, and playing a thousand tricks on him with impunity; and not a dog would bark at him throughout the neighborhood.

4. Rip would never refuse to assist a neighbor even in the roughest toil; but as to doing family duty, and keeping his farm in order, he found it impossible. His fences were continually falling to pieces; his cow would either go astray, or get among the cabbages; weeds were sure to grow quicker in his fields than anywhere else.

5. His children were ragged and wild as if they belonged to nobody. His son Rip promised to inherit the habits with the old clothes of his father.

6. Rip Van Winkle was one of those happy mortals who take the world easy, eat white bread or brown, whichever can be got with least trouble, and would rather starve on a penny than work for a pound. If left to himself, he would have whistled life away in perfect contentment; but his wife kept continually clamoring about his idleness, his carelessness, and the ruin he was bringing on his family. Morning, noon, and night her tongue was incessantly going. Rip had but one way of replying to all

lectures of the kind, and that, by frequent use, had grown into a habit. He shrugged his shoulders, shook his head, cast up his eyes, but said nothing.

7. His sole domestic adherent was his dog Wolf. In all points of spirit befitting an honorable dog, he was as courageous an animal as ever scampered the woods.

8. Rip was fond of taking gun in hand and strolling about the neighborhood. In a long ramble of this kind, on a fine autumnal day, Rip had unconsciously scrambled to one of the highest parts of the Catskill Mountains. He was after his favorite sport of squirrel shooting, and the still solitudes had echoed and re-echoed with the reports of his gun. Panting and fatigued, he threw himself, late in the afternoon, on a green hill covered with mountain herbage.

9. For some time Rip lay musing on the scene; evening was gradually advancing; the mountains began to throw their long blue shadows over the valleys; he saw that it would be dark long before he could reach the village, and he heaved a heavy sigh when he thought of Dame Van Winkle.

10. As he was about to descend, he heard a voice from a distance crying out, "Rip Van Winkle! Rip Van Winkle!" He looked round, and perceived a strange figure slowly toiling up the rocks. It was a short, square-built old fellow, with thick, bushy hair, and a gray beard. He bore on his shoulders a stout keg, which seemed full of liquor, and made signs for Rip to assist him with the load. Though rather shy, Rip complied with his usual willingness. They climbed up a narrow gully, and finally came to a hollow, like a small amphitheater, where a company of odd-looking personages were playing at ninepins.

11. What seemed particularly odd to Rip was, that these folks maintained the most mysterious silence, and

were the most melancholy party of pleasure he had ever witnessed.

12. His companion now emptied the contents of the keg into bottles, and made signs to him to wait upon the company. He obeyed with fear and trembling; but by degrees his awe and apprehension ceased. He even ventured, when no eye was fixed upon him, to taste the beverage, and was soon tempted to drink again. One taste provoked another; and he repeated his visits to the bottle so often that at length his senses were overpowered, his eyes swam in his head, his head gradually declined, and he fell into a deep sleep.

13. On waking, he rubbed his eyes, — it was a bright sunny morning. “Surely,” thought Rip, “I have not slept here all night.” He recalled the occurrences before he fell asleep. “Oh! that bottle! that wicked bottle!” thought he.

14. He looked round for his gun, but in place of the clean, well-oiled fowling piece, he found an old, rusty firelock lying by him. Wolf, too, had disappeared, but he might have strayed away after a squirrel or grouse. He whistled after him and shouted his name, but all in vain; the echoes repeated his whistle and shout, but no dog was to be seen.

15. Feeling famished for want of breakfast, Rip shouldered his rusty firelock, and turned his steps homeward. As he moved along, he found himself stiff in the joints, and wanting in his usual activity.

16. At length he approached the village. He met a number of people, but was surprised he knew none. They all stared at him with equal marks of surprise, and whenever they cast their eyes upon him, invariably stroked their chins. The constant recurrence of this gesture induced Rip to do the same, when, to his astonishment, he found his beard had grown a foot long!

17. He had now entered the skirts of the village. A troop of strange children ran at his heels. The dogs, too, barked at him as he passed. The very village was altered; it was larger and more populous. There were rows of houses which he had never seen before, and those which had been his familiar haunts had disappeared. Strange names were over the doors—strange faces at the windows—everything was strange. His mind now misgave him; he began to doubt whether both he and the world around him were not bewitched. Surely, this was his native village, which he had left but the day before. There stood the Catskill Mountains—there ran the silver Hudson—there was every hill and dale precisely as it had always been—Rip was sorely perplexed.

18. It was with some difficulty that he found the way to his own house, which he approached with silent awe of Dame Van Winkle. He found his house gone to decay, the roof fallen in, the windows broken, and the doors off the hinges. A half-starved dog that looked like Wolf was sneaking about it. Rip called him by name; but the cur growled, showed his teeth, and passed on. "My very dog," sighed poor Rip, "has forgotten me!"

19. He entered the house, which was empty, and apparently abandoned. He soon hurried forth, and hastened to his old resort, the village inn; but it, too, was gone.

20. In a short time a great number of folks crowded around Rip, eying him from head to foot with great curiosity. He was completely bewildered. Finally, he cried out in despair, "Does nobody here know Rip Van Winkle?" "O, Rip Van Winkle!" exclaimed two or three, "O, to be sure! That's Rip Van Winkle yonder, leaning against the tree."

21. Rip looked, and beheld a precise image of himself, as he went up the mountain, apparently as lazy, and

certainly as ragged. The poor fellow now began to doubt his own identity, and whether he was himself or another man. In the midst of his bewilderment a man demanded who he was, and what was his name.

22. "God knows," exclaimed he, at his wits' end; "I'm not myself — I'm somebody else — that's me yonder — no — that's somebody else got into my shoes — I was myself last night, but I fell asleep on the mountain, and they've changed my gun, and everything's changed, and I'm changed, and I can't tell what's my name, or who I am!"

23. The bystanders began now to look at each other, wink, and tap their fingers against their foreheads. At this moment a fresh, handsome woman passed through the throng to get a peep at the graybearded man. She had a child in her arms, which, frightened at his looks, began to cry. "Hush, Rip," cried she, "hush, you little fool; the old man won't hurt you." The name of the child, the air of the mother, the tone of her voice, all awakened a train of recollections in his mind. "What is your name, my good woman?" asked he.

"Judith Gardenier."

"And your father's name?"

"Ah, poor man! Rip Van Winkle was his name, but it's twenty years since he went away from home with his gun, and never has been heard of since. His dog came home without him; but whether he shot himself, or was carried away by the Indians, nobody can tell. I was then but a little girl."

24. Rip had but one question more to ask; but he put it with a faltering voice: "Where's your mother?"

"Oh, she has died but a short time since."

The honest man could contain himself no longer. He caught his daughter and her child in his arms. "I am

your father!" cried he — "young Rip Van Winkle once — old Rip Van Winkle now! Does nobody know poor Rip Van Winkle?"

25. All stood amazed, until an old woman, putting her hand to her brow, and peering under it in his face for a moment, exclaimed, "Sure enough! it is Rip Van Winkle — it is himself! Welcome home again, old neighbor! Why, where have you been these twenty long years?"

26. Rip's story was soon told, for the whole twenty years had been to him but as one night. Then the company broke up, and Rip's daughter took him home to live with her. She had a snug, well-furnished house, and a stout, cheery farmer for a husband, whom Rip recollected for one of the urchins that used to climb upon his back.

27. Rip now resumed his old walks and habits; he soon found many new friends among the rising generation, with whom he soon grew into great favor. He used to tell his story to every stranger. He was observed, at first, to vary on some points every time he told it, which was, doubtless, owing to his having so recently awakened. It at last settled down precisely to the tale I have related.

LESSON LXIV.

in fal' li ble; *unfailing.*

a nat' o my; *parts.*

reg' u la tor; *a contrivance for governing motion.*

an' guish; *grief, extreme pain of soul.*

im plored'; *begged.*

pulse; *beat.*

frac' tion; *a part.*

vi' cious; *wicked.*

dice' box; *a box containing little solid bodies used in playing certain games.*

wheez' ing; *breathing with a sound.*

whoop' ing; *shouting.*

vir' tue; *good quality.*

ig' no rant; *uninformed.*

dis cre' tion; *judgment.*

hair' trig ger; *a sort of trigger.*

rig' id ly; *severely.*

ver' dict; *decision.*

mon' key wrench; *an instrument for twisting.*

MARK TWAIN'S WATCH.

1. My beautiful new watch had run eighteen months without losing or gaining, and without breaking any part of its machinery, or stopping. I had come to believe it infallible in its judgments about the time of day, and to consider its constitution and anatomy imperishable. But at last, one night, I let it run down. I grieved about this oversight as if it were a recognized messenger and fore-runner of calamity. But by and by I cheered up, set the watch by guess, and commanded my bodings and superstitions to depart.

2. Next day I stepped into the chief jeweler's to set it by the exact time, and the head of the establishment took it out of my hand and proceeded to set it for me. Then he said, "She is four minutes slow — regulator wants pushing up." I tried to stop him — tried to make him understand that the watch kept perfect time. But no; while I danced around him in anguish, and implored him to let the watch alone, he calmly and cruelly did the shameful deed.

3. My watch began to gain. It gained faster and faster day by day. Within the week it sickened to a raging fever, and its pulse went up to one hundred and fifty in the shade.

4. At the end of two months it had left all the other timepieces of the town far in the rear, and was a fraction of thirteen days ahead of the almanac. It was away into November enjoying the snow, while the October leaves were still turning. It hurried up house rent, bills payable, and such things, in such ruinous way that I could not abide it.

5. I took it to the watchmaker to have it regulated. He asked me if I had ever had it repaired. I said, no, it had never needed any repairing. He looked a look of vicious

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happiness and eagerly pried the watch open, and then put a small diebox into his eye, and peered into its machinery. He said it wanted cleaning and oiling, besides regulating. "Come in a week!"

6. After being cleaned, and oiled, and regulated, my watch slowed down to that degree that it ticked like a tolling bell. I began to be left by trains, I failed all appointments, I got to missing my dinner.

7. I went to a watchmaker again. He took the watch all to pieces while I waited, and then said the barrel was "swelled." He said he could reduce it in three days. After this the watch averaged well, but nothing more.

8. For half a day it would go like the mischief, and keep up such a barking and wheezing and whooping and sneezing and snorting that I could not hear myself think for the disturbance; and as long as it held out there was not a watch in the land that stood any chance against it.

9. But the rest of the day it would keep on slowing down and fooling along until all the clocks it had left behind caught up again. So at last, at the end of twenty-four hours, it would trot up to the judges' stand all right and just in time. It would show a fair and square average, and no man could say it had done more or less than its duty. But a correct average is only a mild virtue in a watch, and I took this instrument to another watchmaker.

10. He said the kingbolt was broken. I said I was glad it was nothing more serious. To tell the plain truth, I had no idea what the kingbolt was, but I did not choose to appear ignorant to a stranger. He repaired the kingbolt. But what the watch gained in one way it lost in another; it would run awhile, and then stop awhile, and then run awhile again, and so on, using its own discretion about the intervals. And every time it went off it kicked back like a musket.

11. I padded my breast for a few days, but finally took the watch to another watchmaker. He picked it all to pieces, and turned the ruin over and over under his glass; and then he said there appeared to be something the matter with the hair trigger. He fixed it and gave it a fresh start. It did well now, except that always at ten minutes to ten the hands would shut together like a pair of scissors, and from that time forth they would travel together.

12. The oldest man in the world could not make out the time of day by such a watch, and so I went again to have the thing repaired. This person said that the crystal had got bent, and that the mainspring was not straight. He also remarked that part of the works needed half soling. He made these things all right, and then my time-piece performed correctly, save that now and then she would reel off the next twenty-four hours in six or seven minutes, and then stop with a bang.

13. I went with a heavy heart to one more watchmaker, and looked on while he took her to pieces. Then I prepared to cross-question him rigidly, for this thing was getting serious. The watch had cost two hundred dollars originally, and I seemed to have paid out more than that for repairs. While I waited and looked on, I presently recognized in this watchmaker an old acquaintance—a steamboat engineer of other days, and not a good engineer, either. He examined all the parts carefully, just as the other watchmakers had done, and then delivered his verdict with the same confidence of manner.

14. He said, “She makes too much steam—you want to hang the monkey wrench on the safety valve!” I felt as though I should like to floor him; but, suppressing my anger, I snatched the parts of my watch from his table and hurriedly walked off.

LESSON LXV.

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| plan' ti grade; <i>animal walking on the sole of the foot.</i> | tog' gle; <i>force-producing joint.</i> |
| em' blem; <i>sign.</i> | noc tur' nal; <i>nightly.</i> |
| seal; <i>engraved stamp.</i> | brock; <i>name given to the badger in England.</i> |
| car niv' o rous; <i>flesh-eating.</i> | dauchs' hund; <i>dog trained for hunting the dachs, or badger.</i> |
| rac coon'; <i>animal of the bear kind.</i> | jo cose' ly; <i>jestingly.</i> |
| kins' men; <i>persons or animals of the same family.</i> | dubbed; <i>named.</i> |
| | lead; <i>a metal of a dull white color.</i> |

THE BADGER.

1. The American badger has lent its name as an emblem on the state seal of Wisconsin. It is a common animal in the wilder parts of southern Canada, ranging down through Mexico. Its fur is coarse, and darker above than below. The head is still darker, with a white stripe through its middle, which, in the more southern animal, is sometimes prolonged to the tail.

2. The badger is a carnivorous plantigrade, that is, like the bear and the raccoon, it walks on its wrists, and not, like most animals, on its toes. It grows to be two feet and a half long, with the tail, which takes up one fifth of the length. It weighs from twenty to fifty pounds, and is very strong, especially in the jaw and feet. Badgers are great fighters like their kinsmen, the raccoons, but much stronger. They have some sort of attachment to their jawbone at the joint which holds the jaw fast till they choose to slip back the toggle and let it loose.

3. Badgers are nocturnal in their habits, and sleep through the winter, like most of their kinsmen. They are burrowing creatures, forming colonies resembling those of the prairie dog. In the oak opening regions in Waukesha County, and vicinity, mounds of loose soil, like those of

moles, were not at all infrequent in early days, and cattle often broke through into the burrows, sometimes to their cost in broken legs.

4. Badgers prepare their burrows very nicely, and are reputed cleanly to an excess. They are the cleanest animals about their home. Their burrow is quite large, and has but one opening. They depend on their ability to dig to escape if that is blocked.

5. The badger lives on animal food: but old settlers of the Badger State tell us that these animals were also fond of green corn and pumpkins. They were hunted for their fur; and the Indians, such as the Pottawatomies, Foxes, Sacs, Winnebagos, etc., are said to have regarded them as pets and playfellows of their dogs.

6. The common badger of Europe and Northern Asia resembles the American species. It is still common in England, where it is also called the "brock," and in Germany, where it is known as the "dachs," the short-legged dog which pursues it into its burrows being well known as the "dachshund."

7. It might be interesting to know by whom and why the badger was chosen to a place on the state seal of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Bluebook of 1905 explains it thus: In the early lead mining days, in southwestern Wisconsin, the miners from southern Illinois and farther south returned home every winter and came back to the diggings in the spring, thus imitating the migrations of the fish popularly called the "sucker," in the Rock, Illinois, Kaskaskia (Okaw), and other south-flowing rivers of the region. For this reason, the south winterers were jocosely called "Suckers," and Illinois became known as "The Sucker State." On the other hand, lead miners from the Eastern States were unable to return home every winter, and at first lived in rude dugouts, burrowing into the

hillsides after the fashion of the badger. These men were the first permanent settlers in the mines north of the Illinois line; and thus Wisconsin, in later days, became dubbed "The Badger State."

LESSON LXVI.

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| foot' hills; <i>low hills at the base of mountains.</i> | vows; <i>promises.</i> |
| sug' ar pines; } <i>fir trees.</i> | din; <i>noise.</i> |
| flat ee' dars; } | mole; <i>landing place of the ferries.</i> |
| gulch; <i>ravine.</i> | av' a lanche; <i>a mass of snow rolling down a mountain slope.</i> |
| as' pen; <i>a poplar with tremulous leaves.</i> | gen' u ine; <i>real.</i> |
| ob' sta cles; <i>hindrances.</i> | gulf; <i>a wide and deep space.</i> |
| quartz ledge; <i>layer of hard rock frequently containing ore.</i> | em' i grant; <i>one who moves from one country to settle in another.</i> |
| trance; <i>dream.</i> | for lorn'; <i>forsaken, miserable.</i> |
| nug' gets; <i>lumps.</i> | cem' e ter y; <i>burying ground.</i> |
| fes toons'; <i>garlands hanging in curves.</i> | mon' o syl la bles; <i>words of one syllable.</i> |

TOO LATE.

1. The foothills of the Sierras lie bathed in moonlight, and the breezes of the night are wafting mountain dreams through the tops of the sugar pines and flat cedars. Hark! the stillness of the hour is suddenly broken by the ringing of an ax deep in the gulch of the Big Bear River. Clang, clang, clang! goes the ax, as if it would rouse all the prospectors of Nevada County and start the wild beasts from their mountain lairs.

2. What an extraordinary hour the lonely miner of Big Bear Canyon has chosen for woodfelling! But there he stands, unconcerned about the hours that the old Sierras have devoted to silence ever since the dawn of creation. He swings his ax with clocklike regularity, and in a matter of ten minutes the heart of the young sugar

pine begins to quiver and tremble like an aspen. A few more cuts from the opposite side of the trunk, and crash! goes the tree into the darkness of the gulch.

3. The miner raises his broad-brimmed hat for a moment and wipes off the perspiration. After a short pause he falls to clearing the ground of underbrush. His pale, careworn face shows an energy and purpose that minds neither time nor obstacle. Now the ground is clear, and the pickax takes up the work of destruction. He brings it down with terrific force on the quartz ledge which lies bared to the moonlight. Lump after lump yields, and before the town clock far off in the infant valley town of Sacramento strikes one, the miner has carried several pans of shining quartz to his hut which clings to the mountain side.

4. See how he works! The burning pine knot sheds an uncertain light on the pickax and pan, the quartz and the stooping miner. He hurriedly dips piece after piece into a bucket of water and holds the rock to the light. Gold, gold, gold!—there it is on the quartz formation, real, glittering gold! How his eyes drink in the sight! He searches specimen after specimen with the same result. Every lump repeats the story: “Gold, gold, gold!”

5. He rises from his crouching position, and sits down by the fireside of his lonely cabin as in a dream. The pine torch dies, and the far-off clock in the valley strikes two, three, and four, and yet he sits as in a trance. Gold, heaps of gold in kernels and nuggets, stare at him, and twenty times the thought runs through his brain: How could I pinch and starve for two years with gold at my very door? I might have died of poverty in this cabin had not this evening the news run like wildfire over the mountains that rich strikes of gold had just been found at various places in Nevada County. Gold! what air

castles it builds for him! He sees a beautiful house with carved portals and spacious halls, with gardens and sparkling fountains, encircled by orchards and fertile fields — all his own!

6. But listen! What is now entering his dreams? Is it the voice of the pine sapling trembling in the night wind? No, it seems more like the familiar voice of a child. Only see the large infant eyes that now come out of the darkness and pierce his very heart with their looks! And here are two dimpled arms of a child that cling to his knees, and now a warm cheek steals up to his own, and two rosy lips softly speak the word: "Father!" O how these little arms draw the strong man towards them! They are stronger in their attraction than all the gold of the Sierras. The cabin, the gold, the misery of the two years fade out of his dreams, and he is home in West Virginia once more. He is just entering his low door, above which the Virginia creeper is hanging its purple festoons, and there she sits before him: his darling little girl, who wept so as he left her years ago. She is just folding her hands and saying grace:

Come, Lord Jesus, ever blest,
Grant Thy gifts and be our guest.

And now — but hark! the sparrow at the miner's cabin is chirping his morning song, and the light of the young day is peeping in at every crevice of the wall.

7. The miner rises with a moan out of his dream and stretches his stiffened limbs. A glance at the cabin, the pickax, and pan, and bucket, and ore convinces him of his luck, and whilst he rubs his sleepy eyes, he once more solemnly vows to return to his lonely child in West Virginia as soon as he can find the means of leaving California. ✓

8. Years have elapsed. Hundreds of pickaxes are now thundering away in the tunnels that pierce the heart of the mountain, and the stamp mills are keeping up their deafening clatter day and night on the Big Bear River. The poor miner is poor no more. He is now the rich mine owner who is accumulating thousands and thousands of dollars from year to year. But strange to say, though he has tens of thousands in his possession, he longs for more, and the stamp of the mill that crushes the quartz and sends it on over the quicksilver plates seems to harden his heart at every beat. Now and then, at longer and longer intervals, the voice of the child seems to call him home; but the din and clatter of the big iron hammers drown it more completely from year to year. He is no more confined to the canyon of the Big Bear River, but is a frequent visitor to Sacramento and to the cities that lie at the Golden Gate.

9. See him walking along Market Street in San Francisco! He is greeted here and there with respect, for he is a well-known figure at the Mint and the Exchange. He sees with surprise how the city has changed since he first saw it. He tries to make a halt in the crowd that presses along the great thoroughfare. The nations of the world are all represented there. The Englishman and the German, the Norwegian and the Russian, the Spaniard and the Italian, the Chinaman and the Japanese, and everybody else is in the crowd. The mine owner is carried by the crowd of people down to the wharf. Here at the water side he stands and watches the great ferries running between Oakland and San Francisco. Business hours are past. Thousands and thousands of strange faces go hurrying by, aged men with silver hair and children with golden locks. A strange sensation of being

lonely in this wilderness of human beings steals over the man from Nevada County.

10. Where are they all hurrying? Home. Home?—and is there such a place in this restless world? Home! he never thought of home, oh, for so long. The noise of the stamp mill during fifteen years has made his ear unfamiliar with the sound of that sweet word. And now he raises his eyes, and looks over the bay towards Oakland, and sees the white streak of smoke trailing behind the great overland train that leaves the mole. Home! Going home! what a strange, beautiful thought! The sun that is now dipping into the Pacific Ocean does not look, this evening, upon a poorer and lonelier man than the rich mine owner, nor on any that stands more in need of the sacred spot we call home.

* * *

11. The eastbound overland train with two locomotives is slowly climbing the Sierras past the famous “Cape Horn.” The snow-capped mountains appear, the snow-sheds are entered and left behind, and, like an avalanche, the train thunders down to Salt Lake City. Day and night it rushes and reels and swings around curves till it reaches the Great Plains. Of all the passengers none other views the scenery with such genuine surprise and interest as the rich mine owner, who occupies the best section in the Pullman Sleeper. What a gulf seems to lie between the time when he crossed the same plains in an emigrant wagon as a poor West Virginian seeking a fortune, and this present hour! The last seventeen years seem a dream.

12. Four days and nights go by, and the train crosses the Mississippi bridge from St. Louis to East St. Louis. Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, come and go, and the traveler in

the Pullman becomes more impatient every moment. To read a magazine proves a vain attempt. He rises and walks up and down through the car, he looks out of this and that window, he hears more and more familiar names of towns and villages, he knows they must have reached West Virginia. Now his home town is called. How well-known, and yet how strange the sound seems! In a twinkling the man from the mines is out on the depot platform. There is the little town; there are the narrow street, the double row of sign boards, the school, the church, the cemetery, the open field beyond, and the blue hills in the distance. Home, sweet home, is before him.

13. The boys at the depot have something to stare at this evening, for never before has a stranger with such a magnificent diamond on his shirtfront set his foot in the little West Virginia town. The stranger, however, has no time to return their stares. He rushes over the irregular sidewalk down the street, looking neither at the stores nor at the people. He makes for the outskirts of the town. Now he sees the last and least house of the town, his own, before him, just as the sun is setting in gold. How forlorn it looks in the twilight! He hurries on to the spot. The gate leans hingeless against the post. The evening shades deepen, but not enough to hide the fact that the flower beds which once ornamented the front yard are no more. A glance at the house shows that the Virginia creeper is growing in and out through the empty windows.

14. The miner rushes no more. He stands very still; but his breast heaves a deep sigh, and large tears come to his eyes. He does not even turn when a step sounds behind him. But do what he will, the voice of the approaching man reaches him: "Hello, stranger! what are you looking at? The poor girl and her mother sleep over

yonder in the corner of the cemetery." The mine owner now turns. The gold in the sky is gone and seems gone forever.

* * *

15. The sugar pines and flat cedars of Nevada County, California, are telling tales in the night wind over a ruined hut on the hillside. The stamp mill at the foot of the ridge has kept silence for many a year. Rusty pickaxes are strewn here and there in the canyon. What are the treetops murmuring? The stranger can distinguish but two monosyllables: "Too late!"

LESSON LXVII.

goal; *end.*

pil'lage; *robbery.*

be to'kened; *signified.*

mod'ern; *of present or recent time.*

mar'shal; *chief commander.*

vol ca'no; *a mountain throwing out fire.*

ed'i fic es; *large buildings.*

bal loons'; *floating bags filled with heated air.*

se rene'; *clear.*

con fla gra'tion; *a great fire.*

singed; *slightly burned.*

stal'wart; *strong.*

ex tin'guish; *destroy.*

con vul'sive ly; *suddenly, violently.*

haugh'ty; *proud.*

re luc'tant ly; *unwillingly.*

e merged'; *came out.*

can'o pied; *covered as with a tent.*

spec'ta cle; *sight, show.*

hov'els; *low huts.*

plun' der; *belongings.*

THE BURNING OF MOSCOW.

1. At length Moscow, with its domes, towers, and palaces, appeared in sight; and Napoleon, who had joined the advance guard, gazed long and thoughtfully at that goal of his wishes. Murat went forward, and entered the gates with his splendid cavalry; but as he passed through the streets, he was struck by the solitude that surrounded

him. Nothing was heard but the heavy tramp of his squadrons as he passed along.

2. As night drew its curtain over the splendid capital, Napoleon entered the gates, and immediately appointed Mortier governor. In his directions he commanded him to abstain from all pillage. "For this," said he, "you shall be answerable with your life. Defend Moscow against all, whether friend or foe." The bright moon rose over the mighty city, tipping with silver the domes of more than two hundred churches, and pouring a flood of light over a thousand palaces and the dwellings of three hundred thousand inhabitants.

3. The weary soldiers sunk to rest, but there was no sleep for Mortier's eyes. When he entered the city, scarcely a living soul met his gaze as he looked down the long streets; and when he broke open the buildings, he found parlors, bedrooms, and chambers all furnished and in order, but no occupants. This sudden abandonment of their homes betokened some secret purpose yet to be fulfilled.

4. The midnight moon was setting over the city, when the cry of "Fire!" reached the ears of Mortier; and the first light over Napoleon's faltering empire was kindled, and that most wondrous scene of modern times commenced — the Burning of Moscow.

5. Mortier, as governor of the city, immediately issued his orders, and was putting forth every exertion, when at daylight Napoleon hastened to him. Affecting to disbelieve the reports that the inhabitants were firing their own city, he put more rigid commands on Mortier to keep the soldiers from the work of destruction. The marshal simply pointed to some iron-covered houses that had not yet been opened, from every crevice of which smoke was issuing like steam from the sides of a pent-up

volcano. Sad and thoughtful, Napoleon turned toward the Kremlin, the ancient palace of the Czars, whose huge structure rose high above the surrounding edifices.

6. In the morning, Mortier, by great exertion, was enabled to subdue the fire; but the next night, September 15, 1812, at midnight, the sentinels at watch upon the lofty Kremlin saw below them the flames bursting through the houses and palaces, and the cry of "Fire! fire!" passed through the city.

7. The dread scene was now fairly opened. Fiery balloons were seen dropping from the air and lighting on the houses: dull explosions were heard on every side from the shut-up dwellings, and the next moment light burst forth, and the flames were raging through the apartments.

8. All was uproar and confusion. The serene air and moonlight of the night before had given way to driving clouds and a wild tempest that swept like the roar of the sea over the city. Flames rose on every side, blazing and crackling in the storm, while clouds of smoke and sparks, in an incessant shower, went driving toward the Kremlin. The clouds themselves seemed turned into fire, rolling wrath over devoted Moscow. Mortier moved with his Young Guard amid this desolation, blowing up the houses and facing the tempest and the flames, struggling nobly to arrest the conflagration. ✓

9. He hastened from place to place amid the ruins, his face blackened with smoke, and his hair and eyebrows singed with the fierce heat. At length another day dawned—a day of tempest and of flame, and Mortier, who had strained every nerve for thirty-six hours, entered a palace and dropped down from fatigue. The manly form and stalwart arm that had so often carried death into the ranks of the enemy, at length gave way, and the

gloomy marshal lay there and panted in utter exhaustion. But the night of tempest had been succeeded by another day of tempest; and when night again enveloped the city, it was one broad flame, waving to and fro in the blast.

10. The wind had increased to a perfect hurricane, and shifted from quarter to quarter, as if on purpose to swell the sea of fire and extinguish the last hope.

11. The fire was approaching the Kremlin, and already the roar of the flames, and the crash of falling houses, and the crackling of burning timbers, were borne to the ears of the startled Emperor. He rose and walked to and fro, stopping convulsively and gazing on the terrific scene. Murat, Eugene, and Berthier rushed into his presence, and on their knees besought him to flee; but he still clung to that haughty palace as if it were his empire.

12. But at length the shout, "The Kremlin is on fire!" was heard above the roar of the conflagration, and Napoleon reluctantly consented to leave. He descended into the streets with his staff, and at length, half suffocated, he emerged in safety from the blazing city, and took up his quarters in the imperial palace nearly three miles distant.

13. Mortier, relieved from his anxiety for the Emperor, redoubled his efforts to arrest the conflagration. His men cheerfully rushed into every danger. Breathing nothing but smoke and ashes, canopied by flame and smoke and cinders, surrounded by walls of fire that rocked to and fro and fell with a crash amid the blazing ruins, carrying down with them red-hot roofs of iron, he struggled against an enemy that no boldness could awe, no courage overcome.

14. When night again descended on the city, it presented a spectacle, the like of which was never seen before, and which baffles all description. The streets were streets of fire, the heavens a canopy of fire, and the entire body of the city a mass of fire, fed by a hurricane that sped the blazing fragments in a constant stream through the air. Incessant explosions, from the blowing up of stores of oil, tar, and spirits, shook the very foundations of the city, and sent vast volumes of smoke rolling furiously toward the sky.

15. The towers and domes of the churches and palaces, glowing with a red heat over the wild sea below, then tottering a moment on their bases, were hurled by the tempest into the common ruin. Thousands of wretches, before unseen, were driven by the heat from the cellars and hovels, and streamed in an incessant throng through the streets.

16. Children were seen carrying their parents; the strong, the weak; while thousands more were staggering under the loads of plunder which they had snatched from the flames. This, too, would frequently take fire in the falling shower; and the miserable creatures would be compelled to drop it and flee for their lives.

17. Napoleon stood and gazed on the scene in silent awe. Said he, years afterward, "It was the grandest, the most sublime, and the most terrific sight the world ever beheld!"

LESSON LXVIII.

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| flee'cy; <i>resembling wool.</i> | shores; } | <i>beams bracing the ship.</i> |
| dight; <i>dressed, arrayed.</i> | spurs; } | |
| decked; <i>adorned, covered.</i> | thrill; <i>sensation.</i> | |
| stream'ers; <i>long, narrow flags.</i> | ad ver'si ty; <i>calamity, mis-</i> | |
| veil; <i>a loose cloth.</i> | fortune. | |
| | pre vail'; <i>gain the mastery.</i> | |

N. M. Langfellow

THE LAUNCHING OF THE SHIP.

1. All is finished! and at length
Has come the bridal day
Of beauty and of strength.
To-day the vessel shall be launched!
With fleecy clouds the sky is blanched,
And o'er the bay,
Slowly, in all his splendors dight,
The great sun rises to behold the sight.
2. The ocean old,
Centuries old,
Strong as youth, and as uncontrolled,
Paces restless to and fro,
Up and down the sands of gold.
His beating heart is not at rest;
And far and wide,
With ceaseless flow,
His beard of snow
Heaves with the heaving of his breast.
3. He waits impatient for his bride.
There she stands,
With her foot upon the sands,
Decked with flags and streamers gay,
In honor of her marriage day,
Her snow-white signals fluttering, blending,
Round her like a veil descending,
Ready to be
The bride of the gray old sea.
4. Then the master,
With a gesture of command,
Waved his hand;
And at the word,
Loud and sudden there was heard,
All around them and below,
The sound of hammers, blow on blow,

Knocking away the shores and spurs.
And see! she stirs!
She starts! she moves! she seems to feel
The thrill of life along her keel,
And, spurning with her foot the ground,
With one exulting, joyous bound,
She leaps into the ocean's arms!

5. And lo! from the assembled crowd
There rose a shout, prolonged and loud,
That to the ocean seemed to say,
"Take her, O bridegroom, old and gray,
Take her to thy protecting arms,
With all her youth and all her charms!"
6. How beautiful she is! How fair
She lies within those arms that press
Her form with many a soft caress
Of tenderness and watchful care!
Sail forth into the sea, O ship!
Through wind and wave right onward steer!
The moistened eye, the trembling lip,
Are not the signs of doubt or fear.
7. Sail forth into the sea of life,
O gentle, loving, trusting wife,
And safe from all adversity
Upon the bosom of that sea
Thy comings and thy goings be!
For gentleness and love and trust
Prevail o'er angry wave and gust;
And in the wreck of noble lives,
Something immortal still survives!
8. Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity, with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!

We know what Master laid thy keel,
 What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
 Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
 What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
 In what a forge, and what a heat
 Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!

9. Fear not each sudden sound and shock;
 'Tis of the wave, and not the rock;
 'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
 And not a rent made by the gale!
 In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
 In spite of false lights on the shore,
 Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
 Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
 Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
 Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
 Are all with thee,—are all with thee!

LESSON LXIX.

A' ri ans; *followers of Arius,*
who denied the divinity of
Christ.
 vig' or ous; *energetic.*
 doc' trine; *article of faith.*
 sup press'; *subdue.*

her' e sies; *false doctrines.*
 creed; *belief.*
 de grad' ed; *lowered.*
 give coun' te nance to; *ap-*
prove, support.
 dig' ni ty; *elevation of rank.*

CHRIST EQUAL WITH THE FATHER.

All men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father.
 He that honoreth not the Son, honoreth not the Father which
 hath sent Him. *John 5, 23.*

1. During the reign of the Emperor Theodosius the Great (379 to 395), the Arians made most vigorous attempts to overthrow the doctrine of Jesus Christ's divinity. The Emperor had made his son Arcadius partner of his throne and government and demanded that equal honor be done him with himself. The pious Bishop Amphil-

ocius, who for some time had in vain urged the Emperor to suppress the Arian heresies, made use of the occasion to reveal the God-dishonoring character of their creed. He approached the Emperor and made an appropriate address, but passed the son without taking any notice of him. "What!" said Theodosius, "do you take no notice of my son? Do you not know that I have made him partner with me in the empire?"

2. Upon this the good old bishop went to young Arcadius, then about sixteen years of age, and, putting his hand upon his head, said: "The Lord bless thee, my son," and immediately drew back. The Emperor said: "Is this all the respect you pay to a prince that I have made of equal dignity with myself?" Amphiloehus replied: "It is enough that I honor the father." Then the old Emperor became angry and cried out: "What? Do you want to begin a rebellion in my empire?" But Amphiloehus calmly said: "Most gracious Emperor! Do you so highly resent my neglect of your son, because I do not give him equal honor with yourself? What must the great heavenly Emperor think of you who have allowed His co-equal and co-eternal Son to be degraded in His proper divinity in every part of your empire, although He demands that all men should honor the Son even as they honor the Father!" The Emperor felt the rebuke to be just, and at once commanded that no one should give any countenance to the Arian heresy.

3. Though Theodosius had, in his capacity as emperor, no power or authority to suppress what he or Amphiloehus deemed a heresy, and though Amphiloehus certainly erred if he urged his emperor to use other than spiritual arguments, yet this story strikingly illustrates the folly of those who deny that the Son is equal with the Father in nature and dignity.

LESSON LXX.

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|---|--|
| cou' gar; <i>an animal of the cat family.</i> | ma raud' ers; <i>plunderers.</i> |
| ro bust'; <i>muscular.</i> | hab i ta' tions; <i>dwelling.</i> |
| sur passed'; <i>exceeded.</i> | un sus pect' ing; <i>not mistrust- ing.</i> |
| ta' pirs; <i>animals somewhat re- sembling swine.</i> | es says'; <i>attempts.</i> |
| liz' ards; <i>long-tailed, fourfooted reptiles. (rep' tiles; creeping animals.)</i> | ap peased'; <i>made quiet, satisfied.</i> |
| liz' ards; <i>long-tailed, fourfooted reptiles. (rep' tiles; creeping animals.)</i> | vul' tures; <i>large, carcass-devour- ing birds.</i> |
| scour' ges; <i>severe inflictions of suffering.</i> | re vives'; <i>awakes again.</i> |
| ar' du ous; <i>difficult.</i> | ex ter' nal; <i>outward.</i> |
| ex ter' mi nate; <i>destroy utterly.</i> | lon gi tu' di nal ly; <i>lengthwise.</i> |
| | par' al lel; <i>equally distant.</i> |
| | brutes; <i>beasts.</i> |

THE JAGUAR.

1. Like the cougar, the jaguar is an exclusively American animal. Though scarcely equaling the cougar in extreme length, the jaguar is stouter and more formidable. It is found from Louisiana to Buenos Ayres. This animal has a large head, a robust body, and is very ferocious. Its usual size is about three fourths that of a tiger. Humboldt, however, relates that he saw jaguars whose length surpassed that of all tigers of Asia which he had seen in the collections of Europe.

2. The jaguar is sometimes called the American tiger. His favorite haunts are the swamps and jungles of tropical America. There he subsists on monkeys, water hogs, tapirs, birds, turtles and turtle eggs, lizards, fish, shellfish, and insects. Emerging from these haunts into the more open country, he preys upon deer, horses, cattle, sheep, and other farm animals. In the early days of the settlement of South America, the jaguar was one of the greatest scourges the settlers had to meet. He haunted the clear-

ings and plantations and devoured horses, cattle, and sheep without mercy.

3. Nor were the settlers themselves and their children free from his attack. For many years, where these animals abounded, the settlers had an arduous warfare before they could exterminate the ferocious marauders or drive them from the vicinity of their habitations. The jaguar is a cautious and suspicious animal. He approaches his prey stealthily and pounces upon it from some hiding place or some position of advantage. He will follow a herd of cattle for many miles in hope of securing a straggler, and always chooses the hindmost animal, in order that, if turned upon, he may escape with his prey the more easily. In this way he pursues man. A jaguar has been known to follow the tracks of travelers for days together, daring to show himself only at rare intervals.

4. A full-grown jaguar is an animal of enormous strength, and will kill or drag off a horse or an ox with comparative ease. He commits vast havoc among the horses which band together in vast herds on the plains of South America. Full-grown colts or calves are his favorite prey.

5. Goodrich, in his *Natural History*, describes the operations of these animals as follows: "Frequently two jaguars will combine to master the more powerful brutes. Some of them lie in wait around the salt licks, and attack the animals that resort to these places. Their habit is to conceal themselves behind some bush or on the trunk of a fallen tree: here they will lie, silent and motionless, for hours, patiently waiting for their victims. When they see a deer or a mule approaching, the eyes dilate, the hair rises along the back, the tail moves to and fro, and every limb quivers.

6. "When the unsuspecting prey comes within his reach, the monster bounds upon it like a thunderbolt. He fixes his teeth in its neck and his claws in the legs; and though the dismayed and terrified victim flies, and rears, and essays to throw off its terrible rider, it is all in vain. Its strength is soon exhausted and it sinks to the earth an easy prey to its destroyer. The jaguar, growling and roaring in triumph, already tears the flesh while yet the agonies of death are upon his victim. When his hunger is appeased, he covers the remains of the carcass with leaves, sticks, and earth, to protect them from the vultures, and either remains watching near it, or retires for a time till appetite revives, when he returns to complete his carnival."

7. The jaguar makes his attack upon the larger quadrupeds by springing upon their shoulders. Then, placing one paw on the back of the head and another on the muzzle, with a single wrench he dislocates the neck. The smaller animals he lays dead with a stroke of his powerful paw.

8. The jaguar, in external appearance and in habits, closely resembles the leopard of the Old World. The ground color of a full-grown animal is yellow, marked with open figures of a rounded angular form. In each of these figures are one or more black spots. The figures are arranged longitudinally and nearly parallel along the body. The belly is almost white. There is considerable variation in color among jaguars, some being very dark or almost black, with indistinct markings. The richly tinted skins are highly valued, and are exported to Europe in large numbers, where they are used by the military officers for saddle coverings.

LESSON LXXI.

re cip'ro cal; *done by each to the other.*

man'gled; *wounded by numerous cuts.*

mu'ti la ted; *mangled.*

lac'er a ted; *torn, wounded.*

jolt'ed; *jerked.*

writhe; *twist violently.*

blood'shot; *red and inflamed.*

blas phem'ing; *cursing.*

cal'lous; *unfeeling.*

spat'tered; *sprinkled with.*

com'bat ants; *fighters.*

vo ca'tion; *calling, trade.*

home'steads; *dwelling places.*

coun'ter charge; *opposing charge.*

lus'cious; *delicious.*

lair's; *beds of wild beasts.*

biv'ouac; *encampment for the night.*

bank'rupts; *people unable to pay their debt.*

gar'ners; *granaries.*

WAR.

1. Nobody sees a battle. The common soldier fires away amidst a smoke mist, or hurries on to the charge in a crowd which hides everything from him. The officer is too anxious about the performance of what he is specially charged with to mind what others are doing. The commander cannot be present everywhere, and see every wood, water course or ravine in which his orders are carried into execution: he learns from the reports that are made to him how the work goes on. It is well: for a battle is something which men do without daring to look upon.

2. Over miles of country, at every field fence, in every gorge of a valley or entry into a wood, men meet in a fierce struggle for each other's lives. The human form — God's image — is mutilated, deformed, lacerated, in every possible way, and with every variety of torture. The wounded are jolted off in carts to the rear, their bared nerves crushed into maddening pain at every stone or rut: or the flight and pursuit trample over them, leaving them to writhe and roar without assistance, and fever and thirst, the most enduring of painful sensations, possess them entirely.

3. Thirst, too, has seized upon the yet able-bodied soldier, who with bloodshot eyes, sometimes with tongue lolling out, pursues his foe, often blaspheming, killing, with savage delight, callous when the brains of his best-loved comrade are spattered over him. The battlefield is, if possible, a more painful object of contemplation than the combatants. They are in their vocation when they attack the enemy and inflict harm on his body. But their work is carried on amid the fields, gardens, and homesteads of men unused to war. Those who were able to do so have fled before the coming storm. The poor, the aged, the sick, are left in the hurry, to be killed by stray shots, or beaten down as the charge and countercharge go over them.

4. The ripening grain is trampled down; the garden is trodden into a black mud; the fruit trees, bending beneath their luscious load, are shattered by the cannon shot. Churches and private dwellings are used as fortresses, and ruined in the conflict. Barns and stockyards catch fire, and the conflagration spreads on all sides. At night the steed is stabled beside the altar; and the soldiers, weary with the work of the day, complete the wrecking of houses to make their lairs for slumber. The fires of the bivouac complete what the fires kindled by the battle have left unconsumed.

5. The surviving soldiers march on to act the same scenes over again elsewhere; and the remnants of the scattered inhabitants return to find the mangled bodies of those they had loved amid the blackened ruins of homes; to mourn with more agonizing grief over the missing of whose fate they are uncertain; to feel themselves bankrupts of the world's stores, and look from their children to the desolate fields and garners and think of famine and starvation.

LESSON LXXII.

| | |
|--|---|
| rec re a' tion; <i>play, amusement.</i> | creaked; <i>made a sharp, grating sound.</i> |
| bel' low ing; <i>making of a hollow, loud noise.</i> | an tag' o nist; <i>opponent in a match or combat.</i> |
| gore; <i>pierce, stab.</i> | ju' ve nile; <i>youthful.</i> |
| si mul ta' ne ous ly; <i>happening at the same time.</i> | spec ta' tors; <i>lookers-on.</i> |
| a but' ments; <i>approaches to a bridge.</i> | re volv' ing; <i>turning round.</i> |
| mu' tu al; <i>given and received in return.</i> | un' du late; <i>wave.</i> |
| du' el ists; <i>two who fight in single combat.</i> | con cus' sion; <i>striking against.</i> |
| ad' ver sa ry; <i>unfriendly opponent.</i> | ap plause'; <i>approval.</i> |
| | som' er sets; <i>complete turns in the air.</i> |
| | duck' ing; <i>dipping.</i> |
| | dis posed'; <i>minded.</i> |
| | pre dic' tion; <i>foretelling.</i> |

A BULLFIGHT.

1. I remember once seeing, when a lad at school, a fight between two bulls. Although I could not have been more than eight years of age at the time, I shall never forget the spectacle. It happened in this wise. Close by the schoolhouse — a very unpretending edifice it was — ran a deep and rapid river. Across it had been thrown a high wooden bridge, the hand railing of which time and the winds and the weather had entirely destroyed. The land on opposite sides of the stream was owned by different persons, and farmed by them respectively. One bright summer day, — I remember it as it were yesterday, — the hour of noon had arrived, and a playful, fun-seeking troop of schoolboys were let loose for an hour's recreation.

2. All at once, the bellowing and roaring of two bulls that had broken out of their enclosures on each side of the river attracted our attention. The animals were not yet in sight of each other, but were approaching along the highway at a rate of speed which could cause them

to meet near the center of the high bridge which I have described, and beneath which, at some thirty feet, ran the river between steep banks. The more daring of us gathered near the bridge, lining it to see the coming fight. We were not disappointed. Nearer and nearer to each other approached the proud, pawing combatants. They lashed their sides with their tails; they tore the ground with their feet. Occasionally they knelt down, trying to gore the earth with their horns. And as yet they were concealed, each from the other, by the ascent towards the bridge at either end.

3. Presently, as they simultaneously ascended the respective abutments, they came full in sight of each other. The roar was mutual, and actually terrible. Every urchin of us sprang into the fields and ran. Finding, however, that we were not pursued, we as hastily retraced our steps. There they were, the ferocious duelists, quite as sensibly employed as some of their human imitators! Front to front, their horns locked, every muscle strained, they were fighting as only bulls can fight. It seemed an even match. Now one would press back his opponent a few paces, and presently you would hear quick, sharp, short steps, and his adversary would be pressed back in return. The struggling was hard, was long, savage. For a while neither obtained an advantage.

4. Hitherto they had been pushing each other lengthwise of the bridge; suddenly they began to wheel, and, in a moment, were facing each other breadthwise. Thus they were at right angles with the length of the old bridge, which shook, and creaked, and rocked, with their tramping and their terrible struggle. It was the work of a single moment:—one of the beasts—I never could tell which—one of them, however, as if conscious of his position, made a violent, a desperate push forward, and

pressed his antagonist back — back — back — till there was but another step of plank behind him — between him and nothing! The moment was one of intense interest to us juvenile spectators. Never was the amphitheater of Rome the scene of a more exciting combat. Another step backward — yes, the unfortunate bull has been forced to take it! Back he is pressed, and over he goes. —

5. Such a sight I never saw — I probably shall never see again. Imagine a bull pitched backward from a bridge, and falling, at least thirty feet, over and over! He turned once or twice, probably — I thought he turned over fifty times, there seemed such a confusion of horns and feet, revolving, flying through the air! But down he went: the water was deep, and he disappeared, leaving a whirlpool of foam behind him, and making the river undulate far and wide with the concussion of his heavy bulk.

6. The other bull did not laugh — merely because bulls, as I suppose, could not. But we laughed and shouted our applause. There stood the victor, looking directly down into the depth below into which he had hurled his unlucky foe. He stood, however, but a moment; and then, as if frightened at the prospect, began to snort and step backward. Back, back he retreated, with his head in the same fighting position as when in combat — back — still another step back — and over he, too, went on the opposite side of the bridge, performing just as many and as droll somersets as his adversary had done only a minute before.

7. It was a scene to remember: and the performance called forth immense applause from the group of boys who witnessed it. In about five minutes both bulls might be seen, well sobered by their ducking, dripping wet, scratching up the steep banks, each on his own side of

the river. "Those bulls will never fight any more," said a boy behind me. His prediction turned out correct; for two more peaceably disposed bulls than they were, ever afterwards, could not have been found.

LESSON LXXIII.

in ac cess' i ble; *not to be reached.*

in tact'; *uninjured.*

flint' y; *made of a very hard stone.*

me' sa; *a table land, especially a plateau on a hill.*

adz' es; *axlike tools.*

corn' cobs; *the spikes of corn ears.*

in' fer ence; *conclusion.*

dis closed'; *uncovered, revealed.*

heir' looms; *objects inherited.*

u ten' sils; *household imple-
ments.*

i' dols; *false gods.*

wa' ter va' ses; *vessels for carry-
ing water.*

de bris' (dā bree'); *fragments,
ruins.*

di' a lect; *local form of lan-
guage.*

ag' gre gate; *collective.*

ex clu' sive; *avoiding fellowship.*

a' gen cies; *government offices.*

an nu' i ties; *yearly payments.*

ob ject'; *are opposed.*

bed' rid den; *confined to the bed.*

pho to graph' ic; *produced on
paper by the sun's action.*

THE CLIFF DWELLERS.

1. The Pueblo, or village Indians are scattered over an area in New Mexico and Arizona extending along the Rio Grande five hundred miles north and south, and four hundred miles westward. Within this area there are now about thirty-four inhabited villages. There are also the ruins of thousands of ancient villages and towns situated in the valleys of the streams, on the summits of the mesas, and many high up in the sides of the cliffs and the walls of canyons, being carved out like swallows' nests. The ruins already known are sufficient in number and extent to furnish homes for at least half a million of persons, and were probably occupied by twice that number.

2. One noted instance of a carved-out city, which must have been the abode of at least one hundred thousand souls, extended for sixty miles along the face of a winding cliff. These ancient cave dwellings ranged in two, three, four, and sometimes five rows, one above another. By far the greater number were inaccessible; but many of the old paths, worn many inches deep by the feet of the ancients who dwelt there, were intact.

3. There was a marked similarity in the form and construction of these excavations. There was only one aperture, which served for door, window, and chimney. The single room had an oval roof, which bore the grooves made by the flinty adzes or axes of the excavators. Many of the dwellings had side or rear excavations of small size, within some of which corn-cobs and beans were found, evidently left by chance inhabitants of a later period.

4. Upon the top of the mesa, above these caves, there were found large circular structures, now in ruins, but with walls to the height of ten or twelve feet still standing. They were evidently places of worship. They were built of square stones of nearly uniform size, about twenty inches in length by six inches in width and four in thickness, cut from the cliff. Measurements were made of two of these structures, one of which was one hundred and the other two hundred feet in diameter. They might have held from one to two thousand people. The inference that these were places of worship is drawn from the fact that the Pueblos of the present day, who are fire and sun worshipers, have similar temples.

5. The habits and customs of the ancients were sufficiently disclosed, by the researches in a number of the ruined towns, to show a striking similarity to the habits and customs of the present Pueblo Indians, and to prove that the latter are the descendants of the aboriginal in-

habitants of the locality where they now live, and from which they are fast passing away. In nearly every household of the Pueblos of the present day the visitor finds heirlooms — articles of ancient pottery, household utensils, or idols, which have descended from their direct ancestry of a time farther back than any of the living can remember. The jars, bowls, dippers, water vases, idols, and arrowheads found in the debris of ruined towns and villages bear decorations exactly similar to those now used by the Pueblos.

6. Moki is a generic term for seven Indian towns situated on the summits of high mesas. The easternmost of the villages is situated on a table elevated about twelve hundred feet above the surrounding country, with precipitous sides, and comprising barely sufficient area to accommodate the crowded homes of the villagers.

7. Five hundred yards distant is a similar mesa, upon which another crowded village is built. The inhabitants of these two villages speak the same language: but it is an interesting and singular fact that the dwellers upon a third table, situated only a few hundred yards distant, speak an entirely different dialect. The people and their ancestors are supposed to have dwelt thus as neighbors for centuries; yet in their ordinary conversation they do not understand each other, and are compelled to resort to the use of sign language.

8. Their manners, customs, and religions are very similar, indicating a common origin, and they are at peace one village with the other. About ten miles to the west of these three villages, three other villages, similarly situated, are found, while ten miles farther on is the westernmost of the Moki villages, containing a population about equal to the aggregate numbers of the other six villages.

9. Its inhabitants are so exclusive that they do not even visit the United States Government agencies, nor have they ever received any annuities. They object to any communication with the whites. When the inhabitants discovered the approach of an exploring party, they became so much alarmed that they abandoned their homes, leaving only the aged and bedridden.

10. The opportunity was thus presented to the party to make their investigations in the homes of the people at their leisure. A series of fine photographic views was obtained. It was thought best, however, not to carry away any of the utensils or curious articles of furniture with which the village homes were filled.

11. The number of Mokis is estimated at about twenty-five hundred, and that of the remaining Pueblos at from eighteen to twenty hundred. It is believed that they will soon disappear.

LESSON LXXIV.

| | |
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| in dent'ed; <i>cut, notched.</i> | ca tas'tro phe; <i>disastrous event.</i> |
| dis as'ter; <i>an unfortunate event.</i> | cus'tom house; <i>building where</i> |
| in ter sect'ed; <i>crossed.</i> | <i>duties on imported or exported</i> |
| om'i nous; <i>foreboding evil.</i> | <i>goods are paid.</i> |
| suf fo ca'tion; <i>act of stifling.</i> | at'ti tudes; <i>positions.</i> |
| pum'ice; <i>hard, porous substance.</i> | ves'tige; <i>trace, sign.</i> |
| la'va; <i>melted rock.</i> | de pict'ed; <i>shown, pictured.</i> |
| lit'er al ly; <i>to the letter, exactly.</i> | stench; <i>disagreeable odor.</i> |
| | cre ma'tion; <i>burning.</i> |

THE DESTRUCTION OF ST. PIERRE, MARTINIQUE.

1. Martinique is one of the Lesser Antilles, the southeastern group of the West Indies. It belongs to France, and has an area of 381 square miles. It is mountainous

and volcanic in every portion, there being no fewer than four hundred mountains. The largest of the six volcanoes is Mont Pelee, which is about four thousand feet in height. The island has been repeatedly devastated by violent volcanic eruptions, and in 1902 St. Pierre, the principal commercial city, was wiped out by an awful outburst of Mont Pelee.

2. At the time of its destruction St. Pierre numbered about 35,000 inhabitants. The city was built on rising ground, and the streets which followed the coast line mounted one above the other, so that the upper ones were two hundred feet above the sea. They were intersected at right angles by long avenues. Down the center or at the sides of every street that reached the harbor ran canals of rapidly flowing water which carried the refuse of the city to the sea. Back of the city there were gardens and plantations, which sloped up the neighboring mountains.

3. Many of the houses had been built in the eighteenth century and were ornamented with marble and hardwood floors. The color of the houses was a bright yellow, with blue or violet shutters and doors. These houses were set in tropical gardens, and shone like gold in the splendors of a dazzling sunlight.

4. Mont Pelee had on several occasions warned the people who attempted to abide at its foot, but these threats had no more serious effect than to frighten them into settling a little farther away. Warnings had been given by various incidents. For some days ominous thunders were heard from the volcano, and smoke and ashes issued from the crater. The smell of sulphur was so strong that horses on the streets stopped and snorted. Wild animals left the neighborhood of Pelee, even snakes deserted the slopes. Cattle showed uneasiness, dogs showed every sign of fear. But the warnings were little heeded by man.

5. Thursday morning, May 8, 1902, dawned in splendor on the island. The inhabitants of St. Pierre again awoke unconscious of the impending calamity. The distance from the volcano to the town is five miles. As long as it takes a cannon ball to shoot through the air and drop to earth, just so long it took the fierce red-hot stream of molten rock and sheets of flame to fall upon the town. It is supposed that an enormous puff of gas produced a great atmospheric pressure. This gas doubtless caused thousands to die of sheer suffocation before the fire itself reached them. This explains the condition of the bodies which were found covered with superficial swellings and burns caused by the great cloud of fire which followed the first gust of gas from the volcano. After this came a shower of stones, some as large as apples and consisting of pumice. Certain bodies showed the marks of wounds produced by this hail of rocks. ✓

6. The first outbreak occurred half up the mountain from an old crater, which had a winding path towards the city. Here the boiling mass burst forth and ran down the side of the hill. It followed the road first; but then, as the stream got bigger, it ate up the houses on both sides of the road. Then there came another boiling, red river from another part of the hill, cutting off the escape of the people who were running out of the houses. The whole side of the mountain seemed to open and boil down on the screaming thousands. Boiling mud and fire swept the city and the roadstead. There were some fifteen vessels anchored in the harbor, all of which were destroyed. Every house was burned under the ashes and molten lava. An officer who was sent ashore as soon as possible found only a few walls standing and the streets literally paved with corpses. It is certain that no more than thirty or forty persons could have escaped.

7. The town was a mass of indescribable ruins. In the lower part the outlines of the streets could be determined, and here and there were walls of houses, which still stood erect, but battered and crushed on all sides. One was able to pick out the sites of the club, the bank, the bourse, the telegraph office, and the principal shops. At the police station there was a large pile of bodies lying face downward. The fort and central quarters of the town were razed to the ground. Huge heaps of smoking ashes were to be seen on all sides. On the site where once stood a beautiful cathedral now only a portion of its tower remains. The large bell lies in the center of the ruins. Three thousand people fled here for safety, but all were destroyed.

8. Both the English and American consuls with their families perished. The governor of the island, who had arrived only a few hours before the catastrophe, was killed. In the neighborhood of the landing place and the customhouse hundreds of corpses were found lying in all kinds of attitudes, showing that the victims had met death as if by a stroke of lightning. Every vestige of clothing was burned away from the charred bodies. The features of the dead were generally calm and reposeful, though in some cases terrible fright and agony were depicted. Grim piles of bodies were stacked everywhere, showing that death had stricken them while the crowds were vainly seeking escape from the fiery flood. On one spot a group of nine children were found locked in each other's arms. Most gruesome sights were at every side, while from the rapid decomposition of the bodies arose a terrible stench.

9. When the news of the catastrophe reached the nearest ports, relief parties were organized to visit the fated city and render such services as lay in their power.

Throughout Thursday the heat in the vicinity of St. Pierre was so intense that it was impossible to approach the town. Along four miles of the coast there was a bed of fire, and the sky was black with smoke and ashes. Enormous quantities of wreckage and ships and houses strewed the surface of the sea. Almost the first thing done was to make preparations for the cremation of the dead. On all sides were found portions of corpses, which were gathered and burned on one of the public squares.

10. "Who knoweth the power of Thine anger? Even according to Thy fear, so is Thy wrath. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psalm 90, 11. 12.

LESSON LXXV.

draught; *drink.*
 grudg'ing; *regarding with discontent.*

slake; *satisfy.*

craved; *desired.*

quest; *search.*

pro di'gious; *immense.*

rins'ing; *cleansing.*

fin'i cal; *overnice.*

sup; *a mouthful of liquid.*

gaps; *openings.*

mar'ry!; *an exclamation.*

tilch'ing; *stealing in small quantities.*

item; *likewise.*

ex ha la'tions; *that which rises in the form of vapor.*

mea'ger; *lean.*

vi'tal; *being that on which life depends.*

wield; *handle.*

sketch; *a short description.*

THE POND.

1. Once on a time a certain man was found
 That had a pond of water in his ground:
 A fine, large pond of water, fresh and clear,
 Enough to serve his turn for many a year;
 Yet so it was, a strange unhappy dread
 Of wanting water seized the fellow's head.
 When he was dry, he was afraid to drink
 Too much at once, for fear his pond should sink.
 Perpetually tormented with this thought,
 He never ventured on a hearty draught.

2. Upon this pond continually intent,
In cares and pains his anxious life he spent;
Consuming all his time and strength away
To make his pond rise higher every day,
He worked and slaved, and, oh, how slow it fills!
Poured in by pailfuls, and took out by gills.
In a wet season he would skip about,
Placing his buckets under every spout;
From falling showers collecting fresh supply
And grudging every cloud that passed by,
Cursing the dryness of the times each hour,
Although it rained as fast as it could pour.
3. If some poor neighbor craved to slake his thirst,
What! rob my pond? I'll see the rogue hanged first;
A burning shame, these vermin of the poor
Should creep unpunished thus about my door!
As though I had not frogs and toads enow
To suck my pond, whatever I can do.
4. The sun still found him, as he rose or set,
Always in quest of matters that were wet:
Betime he rose to sweep the morning dew,
And rested late to catch the evening's too.
He left, in short, for his beloved plunder
No stone unturned that could have water under.
5. Sometimes, when forced to quit his awkward toil,
And, sore against his will, to rest awhile,
Then straight he took his book and down he sat
To calculate the expenses he was at;
How much he suffered, at a moderate guess,
From all those ways by which the pond grew less;
For as to those by which it still grew bigger,
For them he reckoned not a single figure;
He knew a wise old saying which maintained
That 'twas bad luck to count what one had gained.
6. "First for myself, my daily charges here
Cost a prodigious quantity a year,

Although, thank Heaven, I never boil my meat,
Nor am I such a sinner as to sweat;
But things are come to such a pass, indeed,
We spend ten times the water that we need:
People are grown, with washing, cleaning, rinsing,
So finical and nice, past all convincing.
Not but I could be well enough content
With what upon my own account is spent,
But those large articles from whence I reap
No kind of profit strike me on a heap.

7. "What a vast deal each moment at a sup
That ever thirsty earth itself drinks up!
Such holes and gaps! Alas! my pond provides
Scarce for its own unreasonable sides:
Nay, how can one imagine it should thrive,
So many creatures as it keeps alive,
That creep from every nook and corner, marry!
Filching as much as ever they can carry:
Then all the birds that fly along the air
Light at my pond, and come in for a share:
Item, at every puff of wind that blows,
Away, at once, the surface of it goes:
The rest, in exhalations to the sun:
One month's fair weather, and I am undone."
8. This life he led for many a year together;
Grew old and gray in watching of the weather:
Meager as Death itself, till this same Death
Stopped, as the saying is, his vital breath,
For as the old fool was carrying to his field
A heavier burden than he well could wield,
He missed his footing, or somehow he fumbled
In tumbling of it in; but in *he* tumbled.
Mighty desirous to get out again,
He screamed and scrambled, but 'twas all in vain;
The place was grown so very deep and wide,
Nor bottom of it could he feel, nor side,
And so, in the middle of his pond, he died.

9. What think ye now, from this imperfect sketch,
 My friends, of such a miserable wretch?
 "Why, 'tis a wretch, we think, of your own making.
 No fool can be supposed in such a taking;
 Your own warm fancy." Nay, but warm or cool,
 The world abounds with many such a fool.
 The choicest ills, the greatest torments, sure
 Are those which numbers *labor* to endure.
 "What! for a pond?" Why, call it an *estate*:
 You change the name, but realize the fate.

LESSON LXXVI.

| | |
|---|--|
| con'se crate; <i>set apart as sacred.</i> | dirge; <i>a piece of music of a solemn character.</i> |
| ded i ca'tion; <i>consecration.</i> | |
| plat; <i>a small piece laid out.</i> | cho'rus; <i>a company of singers singing in concert.</i> |
| o ra'tion; <i>speech.</i> | |
| post poned'; <i>put off to a future time.</i> | four' score; <i>eighty.</i> |
| ac cess'; <i>admittance.</i> | de tract'; <i>take away.</i> |
| | e lapsed'; <i>passed.</i> |

LINCOLN'S ADDRESS

at the Dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

Soon after the battle of Gettysburg had been fought, a plat of ground in the midst of the battlefield was purchased and set apart as a Soldiers' National Cemetery. It was proposed to dedicate the grounds on the 23d of October, 1863, and the Honorable Edward Everett of Massachusetts was invited to deliver the oration. Since Mr. Everett could not get ready by that time, the dedication was postponed to the 19th of November. A little more than two weeks before the exercises were held, Mr. Lincoln was thought of as one of the speakers, and he was requested to make a few appropriate remarks after the oration.

The President had very little leisure, and so he had written only about half of his address, when he left for

Gettysburg. There he finished it the next morning, a few hours before the dedication exercises. In the meantime Mr. Everett had made a very careful study of the battle and the battlefield. He had received accounts of the action from General Meade and other officers, had studied all the official reports to which he could gain access, and had passed several days at Gettysburg, visiting every portion of the field.

On the day of the dedication Mr. Everett spoke for two hours, and not a moment did he fail to maintain the breathless interest of his hearers. His oration was a masterpiece.

After this a solemn dirge was rendered by a chorus of one hundred voices, and then the President was introduced. He waited patiently for the multitude to become quiet. In his left hand he held two or three pages of manuscript. Then he made his address, speaking very deliberately in high piercing tones, as was his wont on public occasions, and glancing but once towards his manuscript. The address did not occupy much more than two or three minutes. Here it is:—

“Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

“Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation—or any nation so conceived and so dedicated—can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of it as a final resting-place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

“But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men,

living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us; that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

On the next day Mr. Everett wrote to the President, saying, "I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came so near the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes."

Nearly fifty years have elapsed since the delivery of the Gettysburg address, and still its inspiring sentences may be said to be as familiar as household words to every intelligent American.

LESSON LXXVII.

li ba'tion; *act of pouring a liquid in honor of some deity.*

mu nif'i cence; *extraordinary liberality.*

chap'els; *small churches.*

thatched; *covered.*

em bla'zoned; *decorated, set off with ornaments.*

de'i ty; *god.*

en graved'; *carved.*

di men'sions; *size.*

em'er als; *precious stones of green color.*

bur'nished; *polished.*

cor' nices; *moldings which crown the parts to which they are fastened.*

frieze; *a broad, richly ornamented belt or strip.*

ef' fi gy; *image.*

venge' ance; *revenge.*

spanned; *stretched from side to side.*

cen' sers; *pans in which spices and gums are burned.*

sac' ri fice; *offering made to God or a god.*

res' er voirs; *places where water is kept for use when wanted, as to supply cities.*

ag ri cul' tur al; *farming.*

lla' ma; *a small South American animal which is allied to the camel.*

sol' stice; *time when summer or winter begins.*

awn' ing; *a rooflike cover which is used as a shelter from the sun.*

THE GOLDEN TEMPLE OF PERU.

1. The worship of the Sun constituted the peculiar care of the Incas, and was the object of their lavish expenditure. Many temples were dedicated to this divinity. The most renowned of the Peruvian temples, the pride of the capital and the wonder of the empire, was at Cuzco, where, under the munificence of successive sovereigns, it had become so enriched that it received the name of Coricancha, or "The Place of Gold." It consisted of a principal building and several chapels and inferior edifices, covering a large extent of ground in the heart of the city, and completely surrounded by a wall, which, with the edifices, was all constructed of stone.

2. The work was so finely executed that a Spaniard who saw it in its glory assures us he could call to mind only two edifices in Spain which, for their workmanship, were at all to be compared with it. Yet this substantial and, in some respects, magnificent structure was thatched with straw!

3. The interior of the temple was the most worthy of admiration. It was literally a mine of gold. On the western wall was emblazoned a representation of the deity, consisting of a human countenance looking forth from amidst innumerable rays of light, which darted out from it in every direction. The figure was engraved on a massive plate of gold of enormous dimensions, thickly powdered with emeralds and other precious stones.

4. It was so situated in front of the great eastern portal that the rays of the morning sun fell directly upon it at its rising, lighting up the whole apartment with a brilliancy that seemed more than natural, and which was reflected back from the golden ornaments with which the walls and ceiling were everywhere incrustated.

5. Gold was said by the people to be "the tears wept by the sun," and every part of the interior of the temple glowed with burnished plates and studs of the precious metal. The cornices, which surrounded the walls of the sanctuary, were of the same costly material; and a broad belt, or frieze of gold, let into the stonework surrounded the whole exterior of the edifice.

6. Adjoining the principal structure were several chapels of smaller dimensions. One of them was consecrated to the Moon, the deity held next in reverence, as the mother of the Incas. Her effigy was represented in the same manner as that of the Sun, on a vast plate that nearly covered one side of the apartment. But this plate, as well as all the decorations of the building, was of silver, as suited to the pale, silvery light of the beautiful planet.

7. There were three other chapels, one of which was dedicated to the host of Stars, who formed the bright court of the Sister of the Sun; another was consecrated to his dread ministers of vengeance, the Thunder and the Lightning, and a third to the Rainbow, whose many-

colored arch spanned the walls of the edifice with hues almost as radiant as its own. There were, besides, several other buildings, or isolated apartments, for the accommodation of the numerous priests who conducted the services of the temple.

8. All the plate, the ornaments, the utensils of every description, appropriated to the uses of religion, were of gold and silver. Twelve immense vases of the latter metal stood on the floor of the great hall filled with grain of the Indian corn; the censers for the perfumes, the pitchers which held the water for sacrifice, the pipes which conducted it through underground channels into the buildings, the reservoirs that received it, even the agricultural implements used in the gardens of the temple, were all of the same rich materials. The gardens sparkled with flowers of gold and silver and various imitations of the vegetable kingdom. Animals, also, were to be found there, — among which the llama, with its golden fleece, was most prominent, — executed in the same manner, and with a degree of skill which, in this instance, probably, did not surpass the excellence of the material.

9. Perhaps the most magnificent of all the national solemnities was the Feast of Raymi, held at the period of the summer solstice, when the sun, having touched the southern extremity of his course, retraced his path, as if to gladden the hearts of his chosen people by his presence. On this occasion the Indian nobles from the different quarters of the country thronged to the capital to take part in the great religious celebration.

10. For three days previous, there was a general fast, and no fire was allowed to be lighted in the dwellings. When the appointed day arrived, the Inca and his court, followed by the whole population of the city, assembled

at early dawn in the great square to greet the rising of the sun. They were dressed in their gayest gowns, and the Indian lords vied with each other in the display of costly ornaments and jewels on their persons, while canopies of gaudy feather work and richly tinted stuffs, borne by the attendants over their heads, gave to the great square, and the streets that emptied into it, the appearance of being spread over with one vast and magnificent awning.

11. Eagerly they watched the coming of their deity, and no sooner did his first yellow rays strike the towers and loftiest buildings of the capital than a shout of joy broke forth from the assembled multitude, accompanied by songs of triumph and the wild melody of barbaric instruments, that swelled louder and louder as his bright orb, rising above the mountain range towards the east, shone in full splendor on his worshipers.

12. After the usual ceremonies of worship, a libation was offered to the great deity by the Inca, from a huge golden vase, filled with the fermented liquor of maize or of maguey, which, after the monarch had tasted it himself, he distributed among his royal kindred. These ceremonies completed, the vast assembly was arranged in order of procession, and took its way toward the Coricancha.

LESSON LXXVIII.

mi gra' tion; *moving into a
new country.*

ex u' ber ant; *superfluous.*

ruth' less; *cruel, pitiless.*

vet' er an; *one who has long been
exercised.*

mer' ited; *earned.*

steaks; *slices of meat.*

lux u' ri ant; *greatly abundant.*

hop' pled; *feet tied loosely to-
gether.*

an tic i pa' tion; *forethought.*

stu pen' dous; *astonishing.*

ma' trons; *elderly women.*

con spic' u ous; *easily seen.*

ve' hi cles; *wagons.*

MIGRATION TO KENTUCKY.

NOTE.—Some time before the Revolution, a number of hunters had pushed out from Virginia and Carolina beyond the Blue Mountains. Among the first was Daniel Boone, who, with five companions, had settled in what is now Kentucky in 1775. The following words from Audubon describe the westward movement.

1. The Virginians thronged toward the Ohio. An ax, a couple of horses, and a heavy rifle, with stores of ammunition, were all that was considered necessary for the equipment of the man who, with his family, removed to the new state, assured that, in that land of exuberant fertility, he could not fail to provide amply for all his wants.

2. To have witnessed the industry and perseverance of these emigrants must at once have proved the vigor of their minds. Regardless of the fatigue attending every movement which they made, they pushed through an unexplored region of dark and tangled forests, guiding themselves by the sun alone, and reposing at night on the bare ground.

3. They had to cross numberless streams on rafts with their wives and children, their cattle, and their luggage, often drifting to considerable distances before they could effect a landing on the opposite shores. Their cattle would often stray amid the rich pasturages of these shores, and occasion a delay of several days.

4. To these troubles add the constantly impending danger of being murdered, while asleep in their encampments, by the prowling and ruthless Indians. To encounter difficulties like these must have required energies of no ordinary kind; and the reward which these veteran settlers enjoyed was doubtless well merited.

5. Some removed from the Atlantic shores to those of the Ohio in more comfort and security; they had

their wagons, their negroes, and their families; their way was cut through the woods by their ax-men the day before their advance; and, when the night overtook them, the hunters attached to the party came to the place pitched upon for encamping, loaded with the dainties of which the forest yielded an abundant supply, the blazing light of a huge fire guiding their steps as they approached, and the sounds of merriment that saluted their ears assuring them that all was well.

6. The flesh of the buffalo, the bear, and the deer, soon hung in large and delicious steaks in front of the embers; the cakes, already prepared, were deposited in their proper places, and, under the rich drip of the juicy roasts, were quickly baked. The wagons contained the bedding; and, while the horses which had drawn them were turned loose to feed on the luxuriant undergrowth of the woods, some perhaps hopped, but the greater number merely with a bell hung to their neck, to guide their owners in the morning to the spot where they might have rambled, the party were enjoying themselves after the fatigues of the day.

7. In anticipation, all is pleasure; and these migrating bands feasted in joyous sociality, unapprehensive of any greater difficulties than those to be encountered in forcing their way through the pathless woods to the land of abundance; and although it took months to accomplish the journey, and a skirmish now and then took place between them and the Indians, who sometimes crept unperceived into their very camp, still did the Virginians cheerfully proceed toward the western horizon, until the various groups all reached the Ohio, when, struck with the beauty of that magnificent stream, they at once commenced the task of clearing land for the purpose of establishing a permanent residence.

8. Others, perhaps encumbered with too much luggage, preferred descending the stream. They prepared arks pierced with portholes, and glided on the gentle current, more annoyed, however, than those who marched by land, by the attacks of Indians, who watched their motions.

9. Many travelers have described these boats, formerly called *arks* but now named flatboats: but have they told you that in those times a boat thirty or forty feet in length, by ten or twelve in breadth, was considered a stupendous fabric? — that this boat contained men, women, and children, huddled together with horses, cattle, hogs, and poultry for their companions, while the remaining portion was crammed with vegetables and packages of seeds?

10. The roof or deck of the boat was not unlike a farmyard, being covered with hay, ploughs, carts, wagons, and various agricultural implements, together with numerous others, among which the spinning-wheels of the matrons were conspicuous. Even the sides of the floating mass were loaded with the wheels of the different vehicles, which themselves lay on the roof.

11. Have they told you that these boats contained the little all of each family of venturous emigrants, who, fearful of being discovered by the Indians, moved about in darkness when night came on, groping their way from one part to another of these floating habitations, and denying themselves the comfort of fire or light, lest the foe that watched them from the shore should rush upon them and destroy them? Have they told you that this boat was used, after the tedious voyage was ended, as the first dwelling of these new settlers? No; such things have not been related to you before.

12. I shall not describe the many skirmishes which took place among the different parties of white and red men, as the former moved down the Ohio, because I have

never been very fond of battles, and, indeed, have always wished that the world were more peaceably inclined than it is; and I shall merely add that, in one way or another, Kentucky was wrested from the original owners of the soil.

LESSON LXXIX.

| | |
|---|--|
| af fright'ed; <i>fear-stricken.</i> | as sault'ing; <i>attacking.</i> |
| shud' der; <i>trembling with fear.</i> | char' ger; <i>war horse.</i> |
| her' ald; <i>forerunner.</i> | ire; <i>wrath.</i> |
| bil' lows; <i>waves.</i> | snuf' fing; <i>inhaling through the nose with noise.</i> |
| stake; <i>risk.</i> | wa' ver ing; <i>faltering, reeling.</i> |
| fray; <i>combat.</i> | hur rah'!; <i>exclamation of triumph.</i> |
| high' way; <i>a public thoroughfare.</i> | lyr' ic; <i>an emotional poem.</i> |
| com' et; <i>a starlike body with a long tail.</i> | ac com' pa ni ment; <i>something added for the sake of completeness or ornament.</i> |
| fore bod' ing; <i>foretelling.</i> | |
| trai' tors; <i>persons betraying their country.</i> | |

SHERIDAN'S RIDE.

- Up from the South at break of day,
Bringing to Winchester fresh dismay,
The affrighted air with a shudder bore,
Like a herald in haste, to the chieftain's door,
The terrible grumble and rumble and roar,
Telling the battle was on once more,
And Sheridan twenty miles away.
- And wider still those billows of war
Thundered along the horizon's bar,
And louder yet into Winchester rolled
The roar of that red sea uncontrolled,
Making the blood of the listener cold
As he thought of the stake in that fiery fray,
And Sheridan twenty miles away.
- But there is a road from Winchester town,
A good, broad highway leading down;
And there, through the flush of the morning light,
A steed, as black as the steed of night,

Was seen to pass as with eagle flight;
As if he knew the terrible need,
He stretched away with the utmost speed;
Hills rose and fell; but his heart was gay,
With Sheridan fifteen miles away.

4. Still sprung from those swift hoofs, thundering south,
The dust, like the smoke from the cannon's mouth,
Or the trail of a comet, sweeping faster and faster;
Foreboding to traitors the doom of disaster;
The heart of the steed and the heart of the master
Were beating like prisoners assaulting their walls,
Impatient to be where the battlefield calls;
Every nerve of the charger was strained to full play,
With Sheridan only ten miles away.
5. Under his spurning feet the road,
Like an arrowy Alpine river, flowed,
And the landscape sped away behind,
Like an ocean flying before the wind;
And the steed, like a bark fed with furnace ire,
Swept by, with his wild eyes full of fire;
But, lo! he is nearing his heart's desire;
He is snuffing the smoke of the roaring fray,
With Sheridan only five miles away.
6. The first that the General saw were the groups
Of stragglers and then the retreating troops;
A glance told him both what was done—what to do,
And, striking his spurs, like a whirlwind he flew
Down the wavering lines 'mid a storm of huzzas;
And the wave of retreat checked its course there, because
The sight of the master compelled it to pause.
7. With foam and with dust the black charger was gray;
By the flash of his eye, and his red nostril's play,
He seemed to the whole great army to say:
"I have brought you Sheridan all the way
From Winchester down to save the day."

8. Hurrah! hurrah for Sheridan!
 Hurrah! hurrah for horse and man!
 And when their statues are placed on high
 Under the dome of the Union sky,
 The American soldier's temple of fame,
 There with the glorious General's name
 Let it be said in letters both bold and bright:
 "Here is the steed that saved the day!
 By carrying Sheridan into the fight,
 From Winchester—twenty miles away!"

NOTE. — Thomas Buchanan Read, an artist and poet, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1822, and died in New York in 1872. The preceding stirring lyric was written to furnish a word picture as an accompaniment to a picture he had made of the historical incident which is commemorated in the poem.

LESSON LXXX.

kin' dred; *related.*

ad join' ing; *touching or being very near.*

com pen sa' tion; *payment.*

school com mit' tee; *persons appointed to give special attention to schools.*

wel' fare; *prosperity.*

ac qui esce'; *to yield quietly to what has been decided upon by others.*

con ven' tion; *assembly.*

rec om mend' ed; *spoken of favorably.*

vote; *formal expression of will.*

treas' u ry; *place where the public money is deposited.*

fun da men' tal; *prime, chief.*

is en ti' tled; *has a right.*

trea' ties; *formal agreements.*

con firm'; *approve.*

cen' sus; *official counting of the people.*

rev' e nue; *total income.*

pen' sions; *money paid to veterans on account of past services.*

con sci en' tious; *determined to do right.*

in' ter course; *communication.*

par' ti san; *unduly devoted to a political party.*

fed' er al e lec' tions; *elections of government officers.*

LEGISLATION.

1. In the old days families joined into clans, and clans made up tribes, and finally tribes of kindred people were united for common defense into kingdoms and nations. So, somewhat after the old plan, we have townships forming counties, and counties making states.

2. Each state in some respect is like a separate nation. Thus, it can make laws for its people as though it were quite independent. The laws may differ from the laws of the adjoining state. It can make new towns and counties, and change the old towns. It can lay down the rules for local government, or alter them. The towns and cities get all their authority from the state. The state can also have a military force, its militia, for preserving order, and it provides courts and police for enforcing its laws.

3. The state has also the same right over the land that once belonged to a whole tribe or to a king. It can, therefore, take the land of any citizen, in case it is needed for public purpose, as for a railroad. It would not be fair, however, for a state to exercise this right to take away property without compensation.

4. It would, of course, be impossible for all the people of a state to come together as in a town meeting, to consult or to make laws. They therefore choose their representatives at regular intervals — in some states every year, in others once in two years — to meet and discuss the business of the state. This is the Legislature.

5. The American idea of government is, that the people shall hold the reins of power, as far as possible, in their own hands. Thus the people of a town or a city must not look to the legislature to build their roads, or choose their school committee, or provide water and light: but the

people of a town must provide for their own local needs, or suffer the consequences of their neglect. So, too, each state, through its legislature, must consult and act in matters that touch the interests of all parts of the state, without expecting the nation to do so. The people of a state must be responsible for their own school system and for good order within their borders, and therefore for proper laws. The American plan therefore is, that we leave as much as we can to the honor and patriotism of the people of each town or state.

6. There are, however, many subjects which rest upon all the people of a state together. No town or city must be suffered to do anything to injure the health or the welfare of the people of other towns. Each town, therefore, must obey the laws of the state. As each citizen must acquiesce in what the town meeting does, and pay his share of the expenses of his town accordingly, so the town or county must yield to the greater meeting of the state, to the legislature. So, too, between the state and the nation there are many subjects of common or general interest, for which, therefore, all the people of the United States are equally responsible. These subjects make the basis of our General or National Government. The national Congress may be called the great "town meeting" for the country, or the legislature for all the states.

7. While the colonies were fighting with Great Britain, they had a kind of Union among themselves and a Congress to act for them. But this confederation, as it was called, had no power to raise troops or money, unless the states chose to heed its request. It was, therefore, not very strong, and the states repeatedly refused to do what Congress asked.

8. For a little while after the War of Independence, the states tried the experiment of acting almost independently

of each other. It proved a bad and dangerous experiment. New York might make laws to hurt or to tax the commerce of the people of New Jersey or Connecticut. There was no money to provide for the common good or the defense of the states. A convention was therefore called, which met in Philadelphia, in 1787. It included our greatest men -- Washington, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, and others. It finally worked out the plan for our present Union, and recommended it to the people.

9. According to the new plan the states agreed, by the vote of their people, to give up some of their independence, and to commit to Congress the charge of matters which concern all the people of the nation. No state now could do anything to injure the people of another state. No state could erect customhouses on its boundaries to collect taxes from the commerce of the other states. The new Union could have a treasury and courts with the necessary authority to command obedience. No state could justly resist the authority of the general government, nor could any state withdraw from the others and set up an independent government.

10. The Constitution thus drawn up and adopted remains the fundamental law of our country up to the present day. In accordance with its provisions, the highest law-making body is the Congress, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Every state, however small, is entitled to choose two senators, who are elected by its legislature to serve for a term of six years. One third of the Senate is elected every two years. It is never possible, therefore, as it might be in the House of Representatives, to have a Senate of wholly new members. The senators are supposed to be the representatives of all the people of a state. If any bill is passed by the House of Representatives, it must then obtain a majority in the

Senate. So, likewise, the bills which are passed by the Senate must obtain the consent of the House. The Senate has the sole power, with the President, to make treaties with foreign nations. It may act as a court to try the President for criminal abuse of his office. It also can confirm or reject appointments made by the President. The Vice-President regularly presides over the Senate, without having a vote, unless there is a tie, that is, an equal vote on each side.

11. Every state, however small, has at least one representative in Congress. The number of representatives which a state may send depends upon its population. The House of Representatives numbers nearly four hundred members. The Speaker, chosen by the representatives, presides over the House. The representatives are chosen every two years by a vote of people by districts. The number of congressional districts in a state is liable to be altered once in ten years after the census is taken.

12. The chief power of Congress is in laying taxes and spending money. The revenue of the United States amounts to upward of five hundred millions of dollars. The method of raising this great sum rests with Congress. A considerable part of the annual taxation has to be paid as interest upon the national debt. Another enormous sum goes out in the form of pensions on account of wounded or disabled soldiers. Many millions are appropriated for the army and navy.

13. In all the appropriations, especially for improving harbors and the navigation of rivers, and for government buildings, such as post offices and customhouses, there is opportunity for lavish waste of the public money. Unless, then, the people send conscientious representatives to vote on the expenditures, they must expect to pay heavy taxes.

14. Congress has power to pass important acts concerning the territories and the great public lands, and concerning trade and intercourse with foreign nations. In all these and in many other ways great interests and the rights of individuals are endangered by foolish, partisan, or dishonest congressmen.

15. There are important subjects where the powers of Congress lie close to the rights reserved to the states, so that great wisdom may be required not to involve the general government in a quarrel with the people of a state. Thus, the Congress may pass acts in regard to federal elections, which might make it necessary to send troops into a state, in order to enforce the laws.

16. Once in two years a new House of Representatives must be elected. If, meanwhile, bad laws have been passed, or injurious taxes and wasteful expenses have been voted, the people can condemn the bad legislation by refusing to vote again for the men who were responsible for it. If the same men are returned to the new Congress, it will show that the people approve of their conduct.

LESSON LXXXI.

| | |
|---|---|
| ap pa ra'tus; <i>set of implements.</i> | sug ges'tion; <i>proposal.</i> |
| discs; <i>circular plates.</i> | car' bon; <i>charcoal.</i> |
| zinc; <i>a white-colored metal.</i> | ig nit'ed; <i>set on fire, burning.</i> |
| bat'ter y; <i>an apparatus for</i> | trans mit'ting; <i>sending.</i> |
| <i>producing electricity.</i> | per' fo ra ting; <i>piercing.</i> |
| dy' na mo; <i>an electrical ma-</i> | type' writ er; <i>a writing machine.</i> |
| <i>chine.</i> | in can des' cent; <i>white with heat.</i> |
| in' su la ted; <i>standing alone.</i> | trol' ley car; <i>street car.</i> |
| ar' ma ture; <i>a coil of wire in</i> | au to mo' biles; <i>"self-moving"</i> |
| <i>a dynamo.</i> | <i>vehicles.</i> |
| gen' er a tor; <i>that which pro-</i> | u' til ize; <i>make use of.</i> |
| <i>duces.</i> | in stalled'; <i>given a place.</i> |
| | ru' mor; <i>report.</i> |

ELECTRICITY AND ITS APPLIANCES.

1. Electricity is a force of nature which is brought into use in almost every department of industry. Although the study of electricity has been developed only within the last century, there is no doubt that its existence was known to the civilized world of thousands of years ago.

2. Thales of Miletus, B. C. 600, one of the Seven Sages of Greece, is the first who refers in his writings to the power amber possesses, when rubbed, of attracting small bodies. It is thus from the Greek word *electron* (a' lek-tron), *amber*, that the word electricity has been derived.

3. It was toward the close of the eighteenth century that Galvani and Volta made their important experiments which resulted in the production of electricity by chemical means. Volta, after a long series of experiments, was able to obtain electricity by means of chemical action between metals, and finally he invented the Voltaic Pile. This apparatus consists of metal discs of zinc and copper immersed in acidulated water. On connecting the metals externally by a wire electric currents can be obtained, and this is known as a primary battery. For telegraph work, telephones, electric bells, primary batteries will always be most serviceable.

4. While experimenting with a primary battery, in 1831, Faraday discovered the close relationship of electricity and magnetism. This led to the invention of the dynamo. He showed as a result of the experimenting that when a coil of insulated wire is revolved between the poles of a magnet, electric currents are excited in the coil of wire. A dynamo is merely a machine in which such a coil of wire, termed an armature, is revolved by mechanical means between the poles of one or more magnets.

5. After Faraday had found that electricity could be obtained from magnets, it was not long before the con-

struction of a new form of electric generator was attempted. The apparatus was termed a magneto-electric machine. In all such machines the electric currents were developed in the armature by means of magnetism provided by permanent steel magnets.

6. In the dynamo the magnet employed is not the ordinary horseshoe or permanent steel magnet, but an electro-magnet. This is formed by sending an electric current through a coil of insulated wire encircling a piece of ordinary soft iron, which is thus rendered temporarily magnetic. The use of electro-magnets in place of permanent magnets paved the way for the suggestion of the present self-exciting dynamo.

7. Sir Humphry Davy, in 1800, mentions an experiment by which he then obtained sparks between two carbon points when connected up to a Voltaic Pile, and in 1810 he showed the arc light for the first time. He made use of two pieces of charred wood, which, on being brought near each other and connected to the battery, produced so bright a spark that the charcoal became ignited to whiteness.

8. In the spring of 1844 Samuel F. B. Morse, a native of Massachusetts, brought into practical operation the electric telegraph, which since has come into use for transmitting messages from town to town the world over in the twinkling of an eye. Telegraphing has been improved by an invention by which the typewriter and the telegraph instrument are combined. The wires are attached to a sort of electrical typewriter, which, upon being operated, sets into motion a similar machine at the other end. The operator merely writes the message by playing on the keys of the machine before him, and it is recorded at the other end, the receiving station. Another recent invention in telegraphy is a method of perforating strips of paper with

a machine similar to a typewriter and then placing these strips in a sending device, which transmits the messages at a rate of 10,000 words an hour or even more. Pictures are sent by telegraph, so that an artist in one city may transmit them instantly to another city in complete reproduction.

9. Thomas A. Edison of Ogden, New Jersey, is the chief inventor of electrical machines. It was in 1879 that the world was startled by the rumor that Edison had discovered the subdivision of the electric light called the incandescent lamp. Within recent years the development of electricity has been so rapid and steady that we find this mysterious form of energy applied in every great mechanical and industrial enterprise and even in the common activities of life. Electric light has been introduced, both arc and incandescent, and is almost universally used in cities for all public purposes. The electric trolley car has speedily supplanted almost all other systems of street railway transportation. The telephone was perfected by careful experimentation, and now enables us to communicate by ordinary conversation between persons not only within the same town, but a thousand miles apart. Great factory machinery is run by electricity; bridges are turned or raised by the invisible current; elevators and automobiles utilize the same power. Experiments have shown that plants may be grown under the electric light almost as successfully as under the sunlight. In addition to this, electrical currents have been used directly to stimulate plant growing with good results.

10. Dynamos operated by waterfalls and rapids have been installed in various places with great success. The Niagara Falls generate the electric power for a large number of factories and for the street railways and electric lights of the city of Buffalo.

LESSON LXXXII.

char'i ty; *love.*

tin' kling; *making a small,*
quick, sharp noise.

cym' bal; *a musical instrument.*

be stow'; *give, apply.*

vaunt' eth; *boasts.*

proph' e sy; *foretell.*

CHARITY.

1 CORINTHIANS 13.

1. Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

2. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6. Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7. Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

9. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

10. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

11. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part, but then shall I know even as also I am known.

13. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

LESSON LXXXIII.

chiv' al rous; *brave.*

em' i nence; *hill.*

ac cess'; *approach.*

flo til' la; *a little fleet.*

ebb' tide; *return of tide water
towards the sea.*

sen' try; *a sentinel.*

pan' ic; *sudden fright.*

re en force' ments; *additional
troops.*

bat tal' ions; *parts of a regiment.*

cov' e; *a small bay.*

ex hort' ing; *cautioning, ani-
mating.*

re serve'; *withhold.*

sus tained'; *bore.*

pa rade'; *military exhibition.*

ghast' ly; *horrible, shocking.*

e lapsed'; *passed.*

daunt' less; *fearless.*

hos' tile; *belonging to the en-
emy.*

car' nage; *massacre.*

mor' tal; *deadly.*

em balmed'; *kept from decay.*

con vey' ance; *transportation.*

es cort' ed; *accompanied.*

THE CAPTURE OF QUEBEC.

1. The closing scene of French dominion in Canada was marked by circumstances of deep and peculiar interest. The skill and daring of the plan which brought on the combat, and the success and fortune of its execution, are unparalleled. The chiefs of both armies were already men of honorable fame. France trusted firmly in the wise and chivalrous Montcalm. England trusted hopefully in the young and heroic Wolfe.

2. Quebec stands on the slope of a lofty eminence on the left bank of the St. Lawrence. That portion of the heights nearest the town on the west is called the Plains of Abraham. Wolfe had discovered a narrow path winding up the side of the steep precipice from the river. For

miles on either side there was no other possible access to the heights. Up this narrow path Wolfe decided secretly to lead his whole army, and make the plains his battle ground. Great preparations were made throughout the fleet and the army for the decisive movement, but the plans were all kept secret.

3. At nine o'clock at night, on the 13th of September, 1759, the first division of the army, 1600 strong, silently embarked in flat-bottomed boats. The soldiers were in high spirits. Wolfe led in person. About an hour before daylight, the flotilla dropped down with the ebb-tide in the friendly shade of the overhanging cliffs. The rowers scarcely stirred the waters with their oars; the soldiers sat motionless. Not a word was spoken, save by the young general. At length he recognized the appointed spot and leaped ashore.

4. The Highlanders, under Captain MacDonald, were the first to land. Immediately over their heads hung a woody precipice, without path or track upon its rocky face. On the summit, a French sentinel marched to and fro, still unconscious of their presence. Without a moment's hesitation, MacDonald and his men dashed at the height. They scrambled up, holding on by rocks and branches of trees, guided only by the stars that shone over the top of the cliff. Half of the ascent was already won, when, for the first time, "Qui vive?" broke the silence of the night. "La France," answered the Highland captain, with ready self-possession, and the sentry shouldered his musket and pursued his round.

5. In a few minutes, however, the rustling of the trees close at hand alarmed the French guards. They hastily turned out, fired one irregular volley down the precipice, and fled in a panic. In the meantime, nearly five hundred men landed and made their way up the height. Those

who had first reached the summit then took possession of the intrenched post at the top of the path which Wolfe had selected for the ascent of his army.

6. Wolfe, Monckton, and Murray landed with the first division. As fast as each boat was cleared, it put back for reenforcements to the ships. The battalions formed on the narrow beach at the foot of the winding path, and as soon as completed, each ascended the cliff, when they again formed upon the plains above. When morning broke, the whole disposable force of Wolfe's army stood in firm array upon the table-land above the cove.

7. Montcalm made his order of battle steadily and promptly. He commanded the center column in person. His total force engaged was 7520, besides Indians. Wolfe showed only a force of 4828 of all ranks; but every man was a trained soldier.

8. The French attacked. After a spirited advance made by a swarm of skirmishers, their main body, in long, unbroken lines, was seen approaching Wolfe's position. Soon a murderous and incessant fire began. The British troops fell fast. Wolfe was struck in the wrist, but was not disabled.

9. Wrapping a handkerchief around the wound, he hastened from one rank to another, exhorting the men to be steady and to reserve their fire. No English soldier pulled a trigger; with matchless endurance they sustained the trial. Not a company wavered; their arms shouldered as if on parade, and motionless, save when they closed up the ghastly gaps, they waited the word of command.

10. When the head of the French attack had reached within forty yards, Wolfe gave the order: "Fire!" At once the long row of muskets was leveled, and a volley, distinct as a single shot, flashed from the British line. For a moment the advancing columns still pressed on,

shivering like pennons in the fatal storm; but a few paces told how terrible had been the force of the long-suspended blow.

11. Montcalm commanded the attack in person. Not fifteen minutes had elapsed since he had first moved on his line of battle, and already all was lost. But the gallant Frenchman, though ruined, was not dismayed. He rode through the broken ranks, cheered them with his voice, encouraged them by his dauntless bearing, and, aided by a small redoubt, even succeeded in once again presenting a front to his enemy.

12. Meanwhile Wolfe's troops had reloaded. He seized the opportunity of the hesitation in the hostile ranks, and ordered the whole British line to advance. At first they moved forward with majestic regularity, receiving and paying back with deadly interest the volleys of the French; but soon the ardor of the soldiers broke through the restraints of discipline — they increased their pace to a run, rushing over the dying and the dead, and sweeping the living enemy from their path.

13. Wolfe was soon wounded in the body; but he concealed his suffering, for his work was not yet accomplished. Again a ball from the redoubt struck him in the breast. He reeled to one side; but at the moment it was not generally observed. "Support me," said he to a grenadier officer who was close at hand, "that my brave fellows may not see me fall." In a few seconds, however, he sunk to the ground, and was borne a little to the rear.

14. The brief struggle fell heavily upon the British, but was ruinous to the French. They wavered under the carnage; the columns which death had disordered were soon broken and scattered. Montcalm, with a courage that rose above the wreck of hope, galloped through the groups of his stubborn veterans, who still made head

against the enemy, and strove to show a front of battle. His efforts were vain. In a few minutes the French gave way in all directions. Just then their gallant general fell with a mortal wound; from that time all was utter rout.

15. While the British troops were carrying all before them, their young general's life was ebbing fast away. From time to time he tried, with his faint hand, to clear away the death mist that gathered before his sight; but the efforts seemed vain, for presently he lay back, and gave no signs of life beyond a heavy breathing and an occasional groan. Meantime the French had given way, and were flying in all directions. A grenadier officer, seeing this, called out to those around him, "See! they run!" The words caught the ear of the dying man. He raised himself, like one aroused from sleep, and eagerly asked, "Who run?" "The enemy, sir," answered the officer; "they give way everywhere."

16. "Go, one of you, to Colonel Burton," said Wolfe; "tell him to march Webbe's regiment with all speed down to the St. Charles River, to cut off the retreat." His voice grew faint as he spoke, and he turned on his side, as if seeking an easier position. When he had given this last order, his eyes closed in death.

17. Wolfe's body was embalmed, and borne to the river for conveyance to England. The army escorted it in solemn state to the beach. They mourned their young general's death as sincerely as they had followed him in battle bravely.

LESSON LXXXIV.

| | |
|---|---|
| ep'i cure; <i>one devoted to the enjoyments of the table, a greedy eater.</i> | nick' name; <i>a by-name.</i> |
| cob' webs; <i>spiders' networks.</i> | schol' ar ship; <i>learning, knowledge.</i> |
| tem' pers; <i>soothes.</i> | e con' o my; <i>a disposition to save.</i> |
| | pick' pock ets; <i>thieves.</i> |
| | dil' i gence; <i>industry.</i> |

PROVERBS.

The miser puts his stomach into his purse, and the epicure his purse into his stomach.

Continued exertion, not hasty effort, leads to success.

The blood of the soldier makes the glory of the general.

Death defies the doctor.

A man in the right with God on his side is in the majority, though he be alone.

Measure men around the heart.

Language is the dress of thought.

Necessity is the mother of invention.

Bacchus has drowned more than Neptune.

Habits are at first cobwebs, at last cables.

Money borrowed is soon sorrowed.

The worst wheel in the wagon creaks loudest.

God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.

To excel in art you must excel in patience.

There is many a slip between the cup and the lip.

There is a higher law than the constitution.

Trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle.

Charity begins at home, but it should not stay there.

Chance is a nickname for Providence.

Revenge is a new wrong.

Repetition is the mother of scholarship.

Variety is the spice of life.

Gray hairs are death's blossoms.

Quick mothers make slow daughters.

Economy is wealth.

Good bargains are pickpockets.

Ingratitude is the daughter of pride.

Beauty without grace is a violet without smell.

Quiet manners are a mark of good breeding.

It is an ill bird that fouls its own nest.

Nature forces on our hearts a Creator, history a Providence.

When flatterers meet, the devil goes to dinner.

Diligence is the mother of good luck.

Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

LESSON LXXXV.

pen e tra' tion; *insight, sharp-*
ness.

a cute'; *sharp, penetrating.*

coun' cils; *assembly of officers.*

ju di' cious ly; *with discretion*
and wisdom.

de ranged'; *put out of order.*

re ad just' ment; *putting in*
order again.

pru' dence; *caution.*

in teg' ri ty; *uprightness.*

con san guin' i ty; *relation by*
birth.

bi' as; *incline either way.*

phi los' o pher; *friend of wisdom, a sage.*

tem' per; *disposition of the*
mind.

high'-toned; *sensitive.*

tre men' dous; *terrible.*

con tri bu' tions; *gifts giving*
aid.

de port' ment; *behavior, car-*
riage.

col lo' qui al; *conversational.*

co' pi ous ness; *fluency, abun-*
dance.

cor re spond' ence; *communi-*
cation by letters.

em bar' rassed; *confused.*

CHARACTER OF WASHINGTON.

1. Washington's mind was great and powerful, without being of the very first order; his penetration strong, though not so acute as that of a Newton.¹⁾ Bacon,²⁾ or Locke;³⁾ and as far as he saw, no judgment was ever sounder. It was slow in operation, being little aided by invention or imagination, but sure in conclusion. Hence the common remark of his officers, of the advantage he derived from councils of war, where, hearing all sugges-

1) An English philosopher, born 1642.

2) A great English lawyer, born 1561.

3) An English author, born 1632.

tions, he selected whatever was best; and certainly no general ever planned his battles more judiciously. But if deranged during the course of the action, if any member of his plan was dislocated by sudden circumstances, he was slow in a readjustment. The consequence was, that he often failed in the field, and rarely against an enemy in station, as at Boston and York. He was incapable of fear, meeting personal dangers with the calmest unconcern.

2. Perhaps the strongest feature in his character was prudence. Never acting until every circumstance, every consideration, was maturely weighed; refraining if he saw a doubt, but, when once decided, going through with his purpose, whatever obstacles opposed. His integrity was most pure, his justice the most inflexible I have ever known, no motives of interest or consanguinity, of friendship or hatred, being able to bias his decision. He was, indeed, in every sense of the words, a wise, a good, and a great man.

3. His temper was naturally irritable and high-toned; but reflection and resolution had obtained a firm and habitual ascendancy over it. If ever, however, it broke its bonds, he was most tremendous in his wrath. In his expenses he was honorable, but exact; liberal in contributions to whatever promised utility, but frowning and unyielding on all visionary projects, and all unworthy calls on his charity. His heart was not warm in its affections; but he exactly calculated every man's value, and gave him a solid esteem proportioned to it.

4. His person was fine, his stature exactly what one would wish; his deportment easy, erect, and noble; the best horseman of his age, and the most graceful figure that could be seen on horseback. Although in the circle of his friends, where he might be unrestrained with safety, he took a free share in conversation, his colloquial abili-

ties were not above moderate degree, possessing neither copiousness of ideas nor fluency of words. In public, when called on for a sudden opinion, he was unready, short, and embarrassed. Yet he wrote readily, rather lengthily, with an easy and correct expression. This he had acquired by conversation with the world, for his education was merely reading, writing, and common arithmetic, to which he added surveying at a later day. His time was employed in action chiefly, reading little, and that only in agriculture and English history.

5. His correspondence became necessarily extensive, and, with journalizing his agriculture proceedings, occupied most of his leisure hours within doors.

6. On the whole, his character was, in its mass, perfect, in nothing bad, in few points indifferent; and it may truly be said that never did nature and fortune combine more perfectly to make a man great, and to place him in the same assemblage with whatever worthies have merited from man an everlasting remembrance. For his was the singular destiny and merit of leading the armies of his country successfully through an arduous war, for the establishment of its independence; of conducting its councils through the birth of a government, new in its forms and principles, until it had settled down into a quiet and orderly train; and of conscientiously obeying the laws through the whole of his career, civil and military, of which the history of the world furnishes no other example.

NOTE. — Thomas Jefferson, from whose pen we have the above character sketch, was born in Virginia in 1743, and died in 1826. He will live forever in the memory of Americans as the author of *The Declaration of Independence*. He was President of the United States from 1801 to 1809. He is best known in literature by his *Notes on Virginia*, but none of his writings afford a clearer idea of his style than does this quotation from his view of the character of Washington.

LESSON LXXXVI.

| | |
|--|---|
| shun; <i>avoid.</i> | prec'e dent; <i>previous example.</i> |
| pro fes' sion al; <i>belonging to a calling.</i> | dra' ma; <i>series of grave actions ending in some striking result.</i> |
| per' pe tra tors; <i>committers.</i> | glut; <i>satisfy fully.</i> |
| bar; <i>inclosed place in court.</i> | sa' ti ate; <i>glut.</i> |
| prej' u dice; <i>prejudgment.</i> | hire; <i>pay.</i> |
| op pro' bri um; <i>reproach.</i> | butch' er ly; <i>brutal.</i> |
| man' i fest; <i>show plainly.</i> | or dain' ed; <i>ordered.</i> |
| as sas si na' tion; <i>murder by surprise or secret assault.</i> | im' pulse; <i>force urging one to perform some act.</i> |
| | su' i cide; <i>self-murder.</i> |

THE MURDERER CANNOT KEEP HIS SECRET.

1. I very much regret that it should have been thought necessary to suggest to you that I am brought here to "hurry you against the law, and beyond the evidence." I hope I have too much regard for justice, and too much respect for my own character, to attempt either; and were I to make such an attempt, I am sure that, in this court, nothing can be carried against the law, and that gentlemen, intelligent and just as you are, are not, by any power, to be hurried beyond the evidence.

2. Though I could well have wished to shun this occasion, I have not felt at liberty to withhold my professional assistance when it is supposed that I might be in some degree useful in investigating and discovering the truth respecting this most extraordinary murder. It has seemed to be a duty resting on me, as on every other citizen, to do my best and my utmost to bring to light the perpetrators of this crime.

3. Against the prisoner at the bar, as an individual, I cannot have the slightest prejudice. I would not do him the smallest injury or injustice. But I do not affect to be indifferent to the discovery and the punishment of

this deep guilt. I cheerfully share in the opprobrium, how much soever it may be, which is cast on those who feel and manifest an anxious concern that all who had a part in planning, or a hand in executing, this deed of midnight assassination, may be brought to answer for their enormous crime at the bar of public justice.

4. Gentlemen, it is a most extraordinary case. In some respects, it has hardly a precedent anywhere, certainly none in our New England history. This bloody drama exhibited no suddenly excited, ungovernable rage. The actors in it were not surprised by any lionlike temptation springing upon their virtue, and overcoming it before resistance could begin. Nor did they do the deed to glut savage vengeance, or satiate long-settled and deadly hate. It was a cool, calculating, money-making murder. It was all "hire and salary, not revenge." It was the weighing of money against life, the counting of so many pieces of silver against so many ounces of blood.

5. An aged man, without an enemy in the world, in his own house, and in his own bed, is made the victim of a butcherly murder for mere pay.

6. The deed was executed with a degree of self-possession and steadiness equal to the wickedness with which it was planned. The circumstances, now clearly in evidence, spread out the whole scene before us. Deep sleep had fallen on the destined victim, and on all beneath his roof. A healthful old man, to whom sleep was sweet — the first sound slumbers of the night held him in their soft but strong embrace.

7. The assassin enters, through the window already prepared, into an unoccupied apartment. With noiseless foot he paces the lonely hall, half lighted by the moon; he winds up the ascent of the stairs, and reaches the door

of the chamber. Of this he moves the lock, by soft and continued pressure, till it turns on its hinges without noise; and he enters, and beholds his victim before him. The room was uncommonly open to the admission of light.

8. The face of the innocent sleeper was turned from the murderer, and the beams of the moon, resting on the gray locks of his aged temple, showed him where to strike. The fatal blow is given, and the victim passes, without a struggle or a motion, from the repose of sleep to the repose of death! It is accomplished — the deed is done! The assassin retreats, retraces his steps to the window, passes out through it as he came in, and escapes. He has done the murder. No eye has seen him, no ear has heard him. The secret is his own, and it is safe!

9. Ah, gentlemen, that was a dreadful mistake! Such a secret can be safe nowhere. The whole creation of God has neither nook nor corner where the guilty can bestow it, and say it is safe! Not to speak of that Eye which glances through all disguises, and beholds everything as in the splendor of noon, such secrets of guilt are never safe from detection even by man. True it is, generally speaking, that “murder will out.”

10. True it is that Providence hath so ordained, and doth so govern things, that those who break the great law of Heaven by shedding man’s blood seldom succeed in avoiding discovery. Especially in a case exciting so much attention as this, discovery must come, and will come, sooner or later. A thousand eyes turn at once to explore every man, every thing, every circumstance connected with the time and place; a thousand ears catch every whisper; a thousand excited minds intensely dwell on the scene, shedding all their light, and ready to kindle the slightest circumstance into a blaze of discovery. Meantime, the guilty soul cannot keep its own secret.

11. It is false to itself — or, rather, it feels an irresistible impulse of conscience to be true to itself. It labors under its guilty possession, and knows not what to do with it. The human heart was not made for the residence of such an inhabitant. It finds itself preyed on by a torment which it dares not acknowledge to God nor man. A vulture is devouring it, and it can ask no sympathy or assistance either from heaven or earth. The secret which the murderer possesses soon comes to possess him; and, like the evil spirits of which we read, it overcomes him, and leads him whithersoever it will.

12. He feels it beating at his heart, rising to his throat, and demanding disclosure. He thinks the whole world sees it in his face, reads it in his eyes, and almost hears its workings in the very silence of his thoughts. It has become his master. It betrays his discretion; it breaks down his courage; it conquers his prudence. When suspicions from without begin to embarrass him, and the net of circumstances to entangle him, the fatal secret struggles with still greater violence to burst forth. It must be confessed: it will be confessed. There is no refuge from confession but suicide — and suicide is confession!

FOR PREPARATION. — Webster's unsurpassed skill as a criminal lawyer appeared in the trial of Knapp, at Salem (1830), for the murder of Joseph White. The extract here given is from his opening address to the jury. "Suicide is confession" — Crowninshield, the actual murderer, committed suicide in prison. "Hurry you against the law," etc. — the point made by the opposing counsel.

LESSON LXXXVII.

sway; *influence, authority.*
wail; *loud weeping.*

fraught; *laden with.*
or' phans; *children deprived*
of their parents by death.

SORROW ON THE SEA.

There is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet. *Jer. 49, 23.*

I stood on the shore of the beautiful sea,
And the billows were rolling wild and free;
Onward they came with unfailing force,
Then backward turned in their restless course.
Ever and ever they rose and fell,
With heaving and surging and mighty swell;
Ever and ever sounded their roar,
Foaming and dashing against the shore.
In summer and winter, by night and by day,
Through cloud and sunshine holding their sway;
And deep seemed calling aloud to deep,
Lest the murmuring waves should fall asleep:
Oh, when shall the ocean's troubled breast
Calmly and quietly sink into rest?
When shall the waves' wild murmurs cease,
And the mighty waters be hushed in peace?
It cannot be quiet, it cannot rest,
There must be heaving on ocean's breast;
The tide must ebb, and the tide must flow,
Whilst the changing seasons come and go.
Still from the depths of that hidden shore
There are treasures tossed up along the shore,
Tossed by the billows, then seized again,
Carried away by the rushing main.
O strangely glorious and beautiful sea,
Sounding forever mysteriously,
Why are thy billows still rolling on
With that wild, and sad, and musical tone?
Why is there never repose for thee?
Why slumberest thou not, O mighty sea?
Then the ocean's voice I seemed to hear,
Mournfully, solemnly sounding near,
Like a wail sent up from the caves below,
Fraught with dark memories of human woe,
Telling of loved ones buried there,
Of the dying shriek and the dying prayer;

Telling of hearts still watching in vain
For those who shall never come back again,
Of the widow's grave and the orphan's cry,
And the mother's speechless agony.
O no! the ocean can never rest
With such secrets hidden within its breast.
There is sorrow written upon the sea,
And dark and stormy its waves must be.
It cannot be quiet, it cannot sleep,
This dark, relentless, and stormy deep.
But a day shall come, a blessed day,
When earthly sorrow shall pass away,
When the hour of anguish shall turn to peace,
And even the roar of the waves shall cease.
Then from out its deepest, darkest bed
Old ocean shall render up its dead,
And, freed from the weight of human woes,
Shall quickly sink in its last repose.
No sorrow shall ever be written then
In the depths of the sea or the hearts of men;
But heaven and earth renewed shall shine,
All clothed in glory and light divine.
Then where shall the billows of ocean be?
Gone, for in heaven shall be no more sea.
'Tis a bright and beautiful thing of earth,
But cannot share in the soul's new birth;
Its life is of murmur, and tossing, and spray,
And at resting time it must pass away.
But, oh! thou glorious and beautiful sea,
There is health, and joy, and blessing in thee.
Solemnly, sweetly, I hear thy voice
Bidding me weep and yet rejoice —
Weep for the loved ones buried beneath,
Rejoice in Him who has conquered death;
Weep for the sorrowing and tempest-tossed,
Rejoice in Him who has saved the lost;
Weep for the sin, the sorrow, the strife,
Rejoice in the hope of eternal life!

LESSON LXXXVIII.

free' dom; *liberty*.
 mob; *a riotous crowd*.
 to be be head' ed; *to have their
 heads cut off*.
 guil' lo tine; *a machine for be-
 heading*.
 bade (bad); *offered, declared*.
 ar til' ler y; *soldiers managing
 cannon*.
 in vad' ed; *entered*.

pyr' a mids; *monumental
 tombs*.
 des' pot; *tyrant*.
 con' sul; *kind of ruler*.
 di' a dems; *crowns*.
 fron' tier; *border*.
 al lied'; *connected by treaty*.
 im pe' ri al; *royal*.
 ex change'; *trade*.
 mus' tered; *gathered*.

/

NAPOLEON THE GREAT.

1. When the thirteen English colonies of America declared themselves a free and independent republic, the people of France took a great interest in the affairs of America. They compared the tyranny under which they and their forefathers had groaned for ages in their own country, with the freedom which made the Americans so prosperous and happy. The more they reflected upon the subject, the more discontented they became with their own condition. They began to rave against the king, Louis the Sixteenth, and all whom they formerly respected. They even blasphemed against the Almighty.

2. In 1789, a large Paris mob tore down the Bastile, an old castle, where the kings of France had confined such of their subjects as offended them, and they openly arose against their ruler. The people began to change their ancient government, and now they knew not where to stop.

3. It was not long before blood began to flow. Neither men nor women in the kingdom were safe, unless they wore a red cap upon their heads, which was called the cap of liberty.

4. There were soon so many unfortunate people to be beheaded that the work could not be done fast enough in the ordinary way. A machine was therefore invented, called the guillotine, and France was desolated by its wholesale slaughters. At length the poor harmless king and his queen were beheaded, and France was proclaimed a republic.

5. The rulers over the French people were now a succession of bloody monsters, who, one day, were sending crowds to the guillotine, and, the next day, were sent there themselves.

6. In the mean time war was breaking out on all sides. Austria, Prussia, England, Holland, Spain, and Russia, sent armies against France. The French raised a million of men, and bade defiance to all Europe.

7. In the French army there was a young lieutenant of artillery, named Napoleon Bonaparte. When the war began, he was an unknown and friendless youth. But he distinguished himself in every battle and every siege, till in a very few years the whole world had heard of Bonaparte.

8. When he was only twenty-six years old, he conquered Italy. The next year he compelled the emperor of Austria to make peace. In 1798, he invaded Egypt, and fought many battles in the sandy desert, among the pyramids. Here, however, he was not so victorious.

9. The French by this time were tired of being obedient to men whose only engine of government was the guillotine. They wanted a ruler who would deserve their obedience by his sagacity and energy.

10. Napoleon was such a man. Although one of the greatest soldiers the world has ever seen, he was not a good man, nor a truly wise one. He was a selfish and

ambitious despot. But God permitted him to become the head of the French nation and a scourge to all Europe.

11. Napoleon saw that the French were now so excited that it would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to restrain them. He thought it better that they should make war on foreigners than slaughter each other. So, partly because he could not help it, but chiefly because he was ambitious, Napoleon Bonaparte became a mighty conqueror, and was now the idol of the French people.

12. In 1802, Bonaparte was elected consul of the French Republic for life. Two years afterward, he was proclaimed emperor, by the name of Napoleon. He had now more power than any of the ancient kings.

13. We cannot follow this great captain in his marches all over Europe, nor even number the victories which he won. Wherever he went, monarchs humbled themselves before him. He drove them from their thrones, and placed his own brothers and chief officers there instead. He gave away royal diadems for playthings, and it seemed as if he should always be victorious.

14. But in 1812, the spell of his success began to be broken. In his pride he invaded Russia with a vast army, and penetrated to the city of Moscow. The Russians set the city on fire. Winter was coming on, and the French soldiers had no place to shelter themselves.

15. They retreated towards Poland. On their way thither, they fought many battles with the Russians, and the weather was so bitter cold that the snow was crimsoned with their blood, and the bodies of the slain were frozen stiff.

16. Before they reached the frontiers of Poland, three-fourths of the army were destroyed. Napoleon fled homeward in a sledge, and returned to Paris. He soon raised

new armies and was ready to take the field again. But all the nations of Europe were now allied against him, and after a few more battles he was driven from Germany to France. The enemy followed him. They compelled him to surrender the imperial crown of France in exchange for the sovereignty of the little island of Elba, in the Mediterranean Sea.

17. Napoleon went to Elba, and remained there almost a year. But in March, 1815, he suddenly landed again on the French coast. He was almost alone when he set his foot on the shore. But there were a multitude of his grim old veterans throughout the country. They shouted for joy, and trampled on the white flag of the Bourbon king, who had succeeded him. In a few days, Napoleon's banner again waved triumphantly all over France.

18. The nations of Europe now mustered their armies once more. Napoleon met them in Belgium. He was followed by almost every Frenchman that could shoulder a musket.

19. Napoleon's last battle was fought at Waterloo, on the 18th of June, 1815. He was utterly overthrown, and France was overthrown with him. The warlike emperor was sent to die on the island of St. Helena, and the Bourbon king was again established on the throne. Thus ended the rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. This scourge of God was cast aside, because he did not humble himself before the Almighty.

LESSON LXXXIX.

coun' try men; *people born in
the same country with others.*

cen' sure; *judge.*

val' iant; *brave.*

base; *low.*

bond' man; *a man slave.*
vile; *mean.*

en rolled'; *recorded.*

ex ten' u a ted; *diminished.*

com' mon wealth; *state.*

SPEECH OF BRUTUS.

1. Romans, countrymen, and lovers! hear me for my cause, and be silent, that you may hear: believe me for mine honor, and have respect to mine honor, that you may believe: censure me in your wisdom, and awake your senses, that you may the better judge.

2. If there be any in this assembly, any dear friend of Caesar's, to him I say that Brutus's love to Caesar was no less than his. If, then, that friend demand why Brutus rose against Caesar, this is my answer: Not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved Rome more.

3. Had you rather Caesar were living, and die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live all freemen?

4. As Caesar loved me, I weep for him; as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it; as he was valiant, I honor him; but as he was ambitious, I slew him. There is tears, for his love; joy, for his fortune; honor, for his valor; and death, for his ambition.

5. Who is here so base that would be a bondman? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so rude that would not be a Roman? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so vile that will not love his country? If any, speak; for him have I offended. I pause for a reply. [Citizens cry out, "None, Brutus — none!"] None! Then none have I offended.

6. I have done no more to Caesar than you shall do to Brutus. The question of his death is enrolled in the Capitol; his glory not extenuated wherein he was worthy, nor his offenses enforced for which he suffered death.

7. Here comes his body, mourned by Mark Antony, who, though he had no hand in his death, shall receive the benefit of his dying — a place in the commonwealth: as which of you shall not?

8. With this I depart: That, as I slew my best lover for the good of Rome, I have the same dagger for myself, when it shall please my country to need my death.

FOR PREPARATION. — In the literary masterpiece from which the speech of Brutus has been selected Shakespeare represents Brutus, a Roman philosopher, who is an ardent supporter of the old republican form of government, as joining a band of conspirators who murder Caesar. This was both foolish and criminal on the part of Brutus. It was folly, because the majority of the Romans cared little for honor, freedom, and principle, and had become altogether indifferent to the form of government under which they lived. Julius Caesar, a member of an old Roman family, had absorbed all the powers of the state; but so long as he provided the people with bread and plays, republicanism was of no concern to them. Under such conditions the removal of a single man will not put an end to government by a single man.—The participation of Brutus in the murder of Caesar was also a heinous crime. The commandment: “Thou shalt not kill” is implanted by nature in the heart of every man, and Brutus should have listened to the voice of his conscience which protested loudly against the perpetration of the deed. Besides, Brutus did not slay a mere fellowman, but a patron and friend. — Brutus was no doubt a patriot and, excepting in this instance, characterized by high personal worth. Two years after the assassination of Caesar he fell upon his sword, lest he should fall into the hands of Caesar’s friends and successors. Brutus lived 85—42 B. C.

LESSON XC.

in terred'; *buried*.
 leave; *permission*.
 fu' ner al; *burial*.
 ran' sons; *sums paid for the re-
 lease of a prisoner*.
 cof' fers; *treasury*.
 thrice; *three times*.
 with holds'; *keeps back*.
 cof' fin; *the case in which a dead
 body is inclosed for burial*.
 mu' ti ny; *rebellion*.
 parch' ment; *document*.

clos' et; *apartment*.
 com' mons; *common people*.
 tes' ta ment; *will*.
 be queath' ing; *giving by tes-
 tament*.
 leg' a cy; *a gift by last will*.
 van' quished; *overpowered*.
 trea' son; *a traitor's crime*.
 dint; *impression*.
 ves' ture; *robe*.
 marred; *injured*.
 ruf' fle; *rouse*.

MARK ANTONY'S ORATION.

1. Friends, Romans, countrymen! lend me your ears!
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them—
The good is oft interrèd with their bones:
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answered it.
2. Here under leave of Brutus, and the rest,
(For Brutus is an honorable man;
So are they all, all honorable men,)
Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.
He was my friend, faithful and just to me:
But Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honorable man.
3. He hath brought many captives home to Rome,
Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill:
Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?
When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept;
Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honorable man.
4. You all did see that, on the Lupercal,
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse. Was this ambition?
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And, sure, he is an honorable man.
I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
But here I am to speak what I do know.
5. You all did love him once, not without cause.
What cause withholds you, then, to mourn for him?
O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason! Bear with me;

My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
And I must pause till it come back to me.
But yesterday the word of Caesar might
Have stood against the world: now lies he there,
And none so poor to do him reverence.

6. O masters! if I were disposed to stir
Your hearts and minds to mutiny and rage,
I should do Brutus wrong, and Cassius wrong,
Who, you all know, are honorable men.
I will not do them wrong. I rather choose
To wrong the dead, to wrong myself, and you,
Than I will wrong such honorable men.
But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar;
I found it in his closet; 'tis his will.
Let but the commons hear this testament,
(Which, pardon me, I do not mean to read),
And they would go and kiss dead Caesar's wounds,
And dip their napkins in his sacred blood;
Yea, beg a hair of him for memory,
And, dying, mention it within their wills;
Bequeathing it, as a rich legacy,
Unto their issue.
7. If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.
You all do know this mantle; I remember
The first time ever Caesar put it on;
'Twas on a summer's evening, in his tent,
That day he overcame the Nervii.
Look! in this place ran Cassius' dagger through:
See, what a rent the envious Casca made!
Through this, the well-beloved Brutus stabbed,
And, as he plucked his cursed steel away,
Mark how the blood of Caesar followed it!
8. This was the most unkindest cut of all!
For when the noble Caesar saw him stab,
Ingratitude, more strong than traitors' arms,
Quite vanquished him: then burst his mighty heart;

And, in his mantle, muffling up his face,
 Even at the base of Pompey's statue,
 (Which all the while ran blood,) great Caesar fell.
 Oh, what a fall was there, my countrymen!
 Then I, and you, and all of us fell down,
 While bloody treason flourished over us.

9. Oh, now you weep; and, I perceive, you feel
 The dint of pity: these are gracious drops.
 Kind souls, what weep you, when you but behold
 Our Caesar's vesture wounded? Look you here!
 Here is himself—marred, as you see, with traitors!
10. Good friends, sweet friends, let me not stir you up
 To such a sudden flood of mutiny.
 They that have done this deed are honorable.
 What private griefs they have, alas! I know not,
 That made them do it; they are wise and honorable,
 And will, no doubt, with reasons answer you.
11. I come not, friends, to steal away your hearts;
 I am no orator, as Brutus is,
 But, as you know me all, a plain, blunt man,
 That love my friend; and that they know full well
 That gave me public leave to speak of him.
 For I have neither wit, nor words, nor worth,
 Action, nor utterance, nor the power of speech
 To stir men's blood—I only speak right on;
 I tell you that which you yourselves do know—
 Show you sweet Caesar's wounds, poor, poor dumb
 mouths,
 And bid them speak for me. But were I Brutus,
 And Brutus Antony, there were an Antony
 Would ruffle up your spirits, and put a tongue
 In every wound of Caesar, that should move
 The stones of Rome to rise and mutiny.

FOR PREPARATION. — This selection has been taken from the same work of Shakespeare as the preceding selection. Antony, also a friend of Caesar, is represented as a very different sort of character from Brutus. Though roughly depraved, he was an

excellent soldier and a statesman of great ability. He had seen much of the world. He understood the people, and with his fearlessness, keen wit, and eloquence succeeded not only in wiping out whatever impression the philosopher Brutus had made on them, but in driving them to wreak vengeance on the assassins of Caesar, not excluding Brutus, who had to flee for his life. Two years later Antony defeated Brutus in the second battle of Philippi, whereupon Brutus committed suicide. Antony, who eventually fell a prey to his passions, lived 83—30 B. C.

LESSON XCI.

| | |
|--|--|
| a vail'ing herself; <i>making use.</i> | bul'warks; <i>fortifications.</i> |
| arch'ers; <i>bowmen.</i> | era'ven; <i>coward.</i> |
| en'sign; <i>flag.</i> | pal i sades'; <i>stakes.</i> |
| nov'el ty; <i>new thing.</i> | blench; <i>flinch.</i> |
| knight; <i>soldier of rank.</i> | bar'ri er; <i>palisades.</i> |
| pen'non; <i>streamer.</i> | bar'bi can; <i>an advanced work.</i> |
| ar'mor; <i>war coat.</i> | breach; <i>gap.</i> |
| de vice'; <i>emblem.</i> | strife; <i>struggle.</i> |
| pad'lock; <i>a hanging lock.</i> | yeo'man; <i>peasant.</i> |
| fet'ter lock; <i>a lock fastened to</i> <i>a chain.</i> | res'cue; <i>deliverance.</i> |
| shac'kle bolt; <i>connecting pin.</i> | cham'pi on; <i>victorious fighter.</i> |
| az'ure; <i>sky-blue.</i> | de faced'; <i>disfigured.</i> |
| ween; <i>think.</i> | grov'el ing; <i>crawling.</i> |
| bat'tle ments; <i>breastwork.</i> | pos'tern; <i>a back gate.</i> |
| be ware'; <i>be cautious.</i> | this'tle down; <i>the hairy crown</i> <i>of the seeds of a prickly</i> <i>plant.</i> |
| men'tal; <i>pertaining to the</i> <i>mind, silent.</i> | couch; <i>bed or seat.</i> |
| lat'tice; <i>window, screen.</i> | moat; <i>ditch.</i> |

DIALOGUE FROM IVANHOE.

NOTE.—The following scene is taken from "Ivanhoe," a novel, the scene of which is laid in England, in the twelfth century. Ivanhoe, an English knight, is lying wounded and a captive in the Castle of Front-de-Boeuf, a Norman knight, while it is undergoing an assault from a party of outlawed forest rangers. These are aided by an unknown knight in black armor, who is hence called the Black Knight, and who afterwards turns out to be Richard, King of England. Rebecca is a young Jewish maiden.

Following with wonderful promptitude the directions of Ivanhoe, and availing herself of the protection of the large ancient shield, which she placed against the lower part of the window, Rebecca, with tolerable security to herself, could witness part of what was passing without the castle, and report to Ivanhoe the preparations which the assailants were making for the storm.

"The skirts of the wood seem lined with archers, although only a few are advanced from its dark shadow."

"Under what banner?" asked Ivanhoe.

"Under no ensign of war which I can observe," answered Rebecca.

"A singular novelty," muttered the knight, "to advance to storm such a castle without pennon or banner displayed! — Seest thou who they be that act as leaders?"

"A knight, clad in sable armor, is the most conspicuous," said the Jewess; "he alone is armed from head to heel, and seems to assume the direction of all around him."

"What device does he bear on his shield?" replied Ivanhoe.

"Something resembling a bar of iron, and a padlock painted blue on the black shield."

"A fetterlock and shackle bolt azure," said Ivanhoe; "I know not who may bear the device, but well I ween it might now be mine own. Canst thou not see the motto?"

"Scarce the device itself at this distance," replied Rebecca; "but when the sun glances fair upon his shield, it shows as I tell you."

"Seem there no other leaders?" exclaimed the anxious inquirer.

"None of mark and distinction that I can behold from this station," said Rebecca; "but, doubtless, the other side

of the castle is also assailed. They appear even now preparing to advance."

Her description was here suddenly interrupted by the signal for assault, which was given by the blast of a shrill bugle, and at once answered by a flourish of the Norman trumpets from the battlements.

"And I must lie here like a bedridden monk," exclaimed Ivanhoe, "while the game that gives me freedom or death is played out by the hand of others!—Look from the window once again, kind maiden, but beware that thou art not marked by the archers beneath.—Look out once more, and tell me if they yet advance to the storm."

With patient courage, strengthened by the interval which she had employed in mental devotion, Rebecca again took post at the lattice, sheltering herself, however, so as not to be visible from beneath.

"What dost thou see, Rebecca?" again demanded the wounded knight.

"Nothing but the cloud of arrows flying so thick as to dazzle mine eyes, and to hide the bowmen who shoot them."

"That cannot endure," said Ivanhoe: "if they press not right on to carry the castle by pure force of arms, the archery may avail but little against stone walls and bulwarks. Look for the Knight of the Fetterlock, fair Rebecca, and see how he bears himself; for as the leader is, so will the followers be."

"I see him not," said Rebecca.

"Foul craven!" exclaimed Ivanhoe. "Does he blench from the helm when the wind blows highest?"

"He blenches not! he blenches not!" said Rebecca; "I see him now; he leads a body of men close under the outer barrier of the barbican. They pull down the piles

and palisades: they hew down the barriers with axes. His high black plume floats abroad over the throng, like a raven over the field of the slain. They have made a breach in the barriers — they rush in — they are thrust back! — Front-de-Boeuf heads the defenders; I see his gigantic form above the press. They throng again to the breach, and the pass is disputed hand to hand, and man to man. It is the meeting of two fierce tides — the conflict of two oceans moved by adverse winds!”

She turned her head from the lattice, as if unable longer to endure a sight so terrible.

“Look forth again, Rebecca,” said Ivanhoe, mistaking the cause of her retiring: “the archery must in some degree have ceased, since they are now fighting hand to hand. Look again; there is now less danger.”

Rebecca again looked forth, and almost immediately exclaimed, —

“Front-de-Boeuf and the Black Knight fight hand to hand on the breach, amid the roar of their followers, who watch the progress of the strife.”

She then uttered a loud shriek, and exclaimed, —

“He is down! — he is down!”

“Who is down?” cried Ivanhoe. “Tell me which has fallen?”

“The Black Knight,” answered Rebecca, faintly; then instantly again shouted with joyful eagerness — “But no — but no! — he is on foot again, and fights as if there were twenty men’s strength in his single arm — his sword is broken — he snatches an ax from a yeoman — he presses Front-de-Boeuf with blow on blow — the giant stoops and totters like an oak under the steel of the woodman — he falls — he falls!”

“Front-de-Boeuf?” exclaimed Ivanhoe.

“Front-de-Boeuf!” answered the Jewess. “His men rush to the rescue, headed by the haughty Templar — their united force compels the champion to pause — they drag Front-de-Boeuf within the walls.”

“The assailants have won the barriers, have they not?” said Ivanhoe.

“They have — they have!” exclaimed Rebecca, “and they press the besieged hard upon the outer wall; some plant ladders, some swarm like bees, and endeavor to ascend upon the shoulder of each other — down go stones, beams, and trunks of trees upon their heads, and as fast as they bear the wounded men to the rear, fresh men supply their place in the assault. Great God! hast Thou given men Thine own image, that it should be thus cruelly defaced by the hands of their brethren!”

“Think not of that,” said Ivanhoe; “this is no time for such thoughts. Who yield? — who push their way?”

“The ladders are thrown down,” replied Rebecca, shuddering. “The soldiers lie groveling under them like crushed reptiles — the besieged have the better!”

“Saint George, strike for us!” exclaimed the knight; “do the false yeomen give way?”

“No!” exclaimed Rebecca; “they bear themselves right yeomanly — the Black Knight approaches the postern with his huge ax — the thundering blows which he deals, you may hear them above all the din and shouts of the battle — stones and beams are hailed down on the bold champion — he regards them no more than if they were thistledown or feathers.”

“By Saint John of Acre,” said Ivanhoe, raising himself joyfully on his couch; “methought there was but one man in England that might do such a deed!”

“The postern gate shakes,” continued Rebecca; “it crashes — it is splintered by his blows — they rush in —

the outwork is won — they hurl the defenders from the battlements — they throw them into the moat — O men, — if ye be indeed men, — spare them that can resist no longer!”

“The bridge — the bridge which communicates with the castle — have they won that pass?” exclaimed Ivanhoe.

“No,” replied Rebecca: “the Templar has destroyed the plank on which they crossed — few of the defenders escaped with him into the castle — the shrieks and cries which you hear tell the fate of the others. Alas! I see it is still more difficult to look upon victory than upon battle!”

“What do they now, maiden?” said Ivanhoe; “look forth yet again — this is no time to faint at bloodshed.”

“It is over for the time,” answered Rebecca. “Our friends strengthen themselves within the outwork which they have mastered; and it affords them so good a shelter from the foemen’s shot that the garrison only bestow a few bolts on it, from interval to interval, as if rather to disquiet than effectually to injure them.”

THE END.

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION.

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| ā, as in fate. | û, as in curl. |
| ă, “ fat. | u, “ rude. |
| ä, “ far. | u, “ pull. |
| a, “ fall. | ē, “ me. |
| â, “ ask. | ě, “ beg. |
| a, “ what. | ê, “ there. |
| â, “ care. | ē, “ her. |
| ī, “ kite. | e, “ eight. |
| ĩ, “ big. | ȳ, “ my. |
| ĩ, “ dirt. | ÿ, “ hymn. |
| ï, “ machine. | ōō “ school. |
| ō, “ old. | ōō “ wool. |
| ö, “ not. | ç, “ cell. |
| ó, “ none. | e, “ ear. |
| o, “ wolf. | eh “ character. |
| o, “ do. | ch “ cheek. |
| ū, “ use. | g, “ energy. |
| ũ, “ bug. | g, “ gale. |

PROPER NOUNS.

The figures refer to number of lesson.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Aá' ron 29 | Bē' ring Strait 26 |
| Ä' cre (-kēr) 29 | Ber thi er' (Bēr tī ā') 67 |
| A lās' ka 26 | Big Bēar Rīv' er 66 |
| A leū' ti an Is' lands 26 | Blūe' book 65 |
| Al ex ān' der | Bo līv' i a 62 |
| von Hūm' boldt 38 | Bō' na pārte 88 |
| Al mīght' y 59 | Bour' bon 88 |
| Āl' pine 79 | Brēg' enz 54 |
| Ām' a zon 62 | Bu e' nos Aȳ' rēs 32 |
| Am phīl' o chūs 69 | |
| An nāp' o lis 56 | Caē' sar 89 |
| Ān' dēs 32 | Cā' na an 44 |
| An tīl' lēs 74 | Cān' cer 66 |
| Ār' a rat 29 | Cape Hōrn 65 |
| Ar cā' di us 69 | Cāp' i tol 89 |
| Ärc' tic O' cean 49 | Cār' mel 29 |
| Ā' ri ans 69 | Car o lī' na 79 |
| Ar i zō' na 73 | Cās' co 90 |
| Aus' tri a 88 | Cās' si us (cāsh-) 90 |
| | Cāth' er ĩne 19 |
| Bā' al 29 | Cāth' o lic 32 |
| Bāc' ehūs 84 | Cāts' kill 63 |
| Bā' con 85 | Cey lōn' 7 |
| Bād' ger State 62 | Chā' grēs 39 |
| Ba hī' a 62 | Chī' le 32 |
| Bal bō' a 38 | Chûrch' ill Riv' er 49 |
| Bärb 51 | Co lōn' 38 |
| Bär' ba ry 11 | Co lūm' bi ans 38 |
| Bas tīle' 88 | Co lūm' bus 62 |
| Bēl' gi ūm 88 | Con nēt' i cut (-nēt'-) 80 |

Cõn' stance 54
 Con sti tũ' tion 35
 Cõ ri cãu' chã 77
 Co rĩn^h thi ans 82
 Cte nĩ' za (tē nĩ' za) 20
 Cuz' co 77

Dãi' sy 16
 De Lẽs' sěps 39
 Du Chail lu' (shã yũ') 43

E' bal 29
 Eb en ě' zer 14
 Ēd' i son 81
 E' dom 44
 Ēd' ward Ēv' er ett 76
 Ēl' ba 88
 E lĩ' jah 29
 Ēl' li ot 9
 Eu gēne' 67
 Ex chãnge' 66
 Ěx' o dũs 44

Fãr' a day 81
 Fire Hole Riv' er 23
 Fort Cãs' per 9
 Fort Prince of Wãles 49
 Fõx' es 65
 Frãnk' lin 35

Gãl vã' ni 81
 Gõat Is' land 25
 Gold' en Gãte 66
 Gõõd' rich 70
 Great Salt' Lake 32
 Greece 81

Hãi' ti 62
 Hãm' il ton 80
 Hã' ver hill 6
 Hãw' thorne 61
 Hēarne 49
 Hēr' mon 29
 Hez e kĩ' ah 14
 Hĩn do stãn' 12
 Hõn' do 27
 Hong kõng' 56
 Hôr 29
 Hũd' son 63
 Hũ' ġue nõts (-ġe-) 50
 Hũmph' rey 81

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